

## 48 die in new Sri Lankan attack

COLOMBO (R) — Forty-eight people were killed Wednesday when unidentified assailants attacked passengers on a ferry in northern Sri Lanka with guns and knives, official sources said. The sources told Reuters about 30 people were injured and several were feared missing after the travellers were attacked on the ferry between Delft and Nainativu islands. The raid came a day after 145 civilians were killed by Tamil guerrillas who went on a shooting spree in the ancient Buddhist city of Anuradhapura (See page 8). Officials said they did not yet know if the boat attack was linked to the Anuradhapura attack, but the government has ordered a national security alert to prevent a possible backlash by Sinhalese against Tamils.

# Jordan Times

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## Israeli opinion split over W. Bank

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli public opinion is split over whether to exchange land in the West Bank for peace with Jordan, a survey published Wednesday said. A poll for the independent newspaper Maariv said 48.7 per cent were ready to give up all or part of the West Bank in exchange for a peace agreement with Jordan. A further 49.4 per cent said they opposed giving up land. Of the 1,254 Israelis interviewed, 1.9 per cent said they had no reaction. More than two-thirds of those favouring "concessions" said they would give up only part of the West Bank. The remainder said they would concede all of it. About 45,000 Jews have settled in the West Bank since its occupation in the 1967 Middle East war. About 800,000 Palestinians live there.

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## Customs duty goes up on iron rods

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has decided to increase customs tariff by 10 per cent on imported iron rods used for construction. The decision aims to support locally manufactured iron rods in face of foreign competition.

## Murphy due in Morocco

RABAT (R) — Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Richard Murphy was due here Wednesday night for a 24-hour visit to Morocco during which he is expected to confer with King Hassan, diplomatic sources said. Mr. Murphy, who was due to meet Foreign Minister Abdul Latif Filali, is on his way back to Washington after touring Egypt, Jordan and Israel with Secretary of State George Shultz.

## Israeli coalition survives 3 votes

TEL AVIV (AP) — The government Wednesday defeated three parliamentary no-confidence motions attacking its stringent economic policy. The motions were brought by three left-wing opposition parties, the Citizens Rights Movement (CRM) party, Mapam and the Communist Rakkah party. Together they hold 14 of the 120 seats in the Israeli parliament.

## Israeli army retracts report of attack

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli army Tuesday night withdrew a statement that guerrillas in South Lebanon had fired across the border at an Israeli military vehicle inside Israel. An army spokesman said the shots came from the automatic rifle of the vehicle's driver. He said police were investigating what had caused the driver to open fire.

## U.S. said to seek to inspect Israeli nuclear installations

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States has asked to inspect Israel's secret nuclear installations to verify that U.S.-made timing devices, alleged to have been obtained clandestinely, had not been used to make atomic weapons, the Washington Post reported Wednesday. The newspaper, quoting unidentified U.S. and diplomatic sources, said that if Israel refused to grant the request, Washington would ask it to provide an alternative accounting for an estimated 500 to 600 of the tiny switches, known as lytrons, that can be used in nuclear weapons.

## India denies border clashes

NEW DELHI (R) — The Defence Ministry denied an Indian news agency report about an exchange of fire between Indian and Pakistani troops on their disputed northern border. A Defence Ministry spokesman told Reuters the only firing which took place in the Kathua district of India's Jammu and Kashmir state involved a training exercise by Indian troops. (See page 8).

# King briefs Qatari, UAE leaders on joint moves

Doha, Abu Dhabi talks cover outcome of Shultz visit, Arab issues, Gulf war and bilateral ties

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

**ABU DHABI —** His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday reviewed with the leaders of Qatar and the United Arab Emirates the latest developments in the Middle East and briefed the two leaders on joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves for a just solution to the Palestinian problem.

The King, accompanied by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, arrived here Wednesday after a brief visit to Qatar where he held talks with the Emir, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani. The Qatari News Agency (QNA) quoted Mr. Qasem as saying the King briefed Sheikh Khalifa on the outcome of talks the King held with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz earlier this week.

In Abu Dhabi, the King and the accompanying delegation were received upon arrival by UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan. Talks between the Jordanian delegation headed by the King and a UAE delegation headed by Sheikh Zayed began immediately.

The current situation in the Arab World, the 55-month-old Iran-Iraq war and bilateral relations figured high in the King's talks with Sheikh Khalifa and Sheikh Zayed, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. The visits to Qatar and the UAE come as part of an Arab Gulf tour the King began last week by paying brief visits to Kuwait and Bahrain for talks with Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah of Kuwait and Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa of Bahrain.

The King returned to Amman last Wednesday and paid a visit to the Saudi Arabian port city of Jeddah for talks with King Fahd on Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. Qasem was in Jeddah Tuesday night to brief King Fahd on the outcome of King Hussein's talks with Mr. Shultz.

The King's consultations with the Gulf Arab leaders precede a planned visit to the U.S. later this month for talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan on prospects for peace in the Middle East in the light of the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a common political strategy towards a peaceful solution to the Palestinian problem.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul-Meguid announced Tuesday that King Hussein and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt are expected to hold talks before the King's planned visit to the U.S. He did not give the exact date or venue for the planned talks.

The White House said Tuesday that the King was expected to meet President Reagan on May 29 at the White House.

Diplomats and observers attach special significance to the King's talks with Arab leaders before his visit to the U.S. especially in the

light of his talks with Mr. Shultz earlier this week. Mr. Shultz, who visited Israel and Egypt before the talks in Amman, concluded his tour to the region saying some progress was made towards the U.S. goal of drawing up a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation for talks with Washington before broader peace talks including Israel. However, the U.S. secretary of state also said that he found divergent views in the region on what approach to take towards the final goal of solving the Palestinian problem (See page 3).

The King is apparently briefing the Gulf Arab leaders on the progress. Joint Jordan-PLO moves have achieved in the international scene for the Feb. 11 agreement and seeking to muster Arab support for the joint strategy.

Little chance exists for an immediate convening of an Arab summit where the Feb. 11 agreement could be debated and the only option left for Jordan and the PLO to seek support for the accord is through a joint Jordanian-Palestinian approach, diplomats and observers say.

The King was seen off Wednesday from Amman by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, Lower House Speaker Akel Al Fayez, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Zaid Ibn Shaker, Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali, cabinet members, senior civil and military officials and the ambassadors to Jordan of Qatar and the UAE.

Crown Prince Hassan was sworn in as Regent before the King's departure.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan is sworn in as Regent before the departure of His Majesty King Hussein for Qatar and the United Arab Emirates on Wednesday (Petra photo)

## Amman governor issues regulations for Ramadan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman Governor Turkey Al Hindawi Wednesday issued regulations covering the observance of the Holy Month of Ramadan, which starts next week, during which all Muslim faithful are expected to abstain from eating, drinking or smoking during the day as part of the observance.

No one is allowed to eat or smoke in public, especially in the streets, buses or cars or any other transport vehicle.

The governors' instructions, issued to provincial governors and police departments, called on the concerned authorities to ensure that these stipulations are carried out in full and that anyone found violating the sanctity of the Holy Month will be severely punished.

The first day of Ramadan is determined upon sighting the moon and until Wednesday there was no clear indication when the Holy Month will start.

Tunis has already declared that Ramadan will start in the North African country on Tuesday.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai issued a circular Tuesday regulating the working hours during Ramadan of all government departments and offices from 9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the exception of those departments and offices whose nature of work require alternate arrangements.

## Senate votes \$1.5b aid to Israel, \$500m to Egypt

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Senate has tentatively approved \$1.5 billion in emergency economic aid for Israel, \$500 million in economic aid for Egypt and \$15 million in humanitarian aid to Afghanistan.

In a series of preliminary voice votes on the \$14.8 billion foreign aid bill for 1986, the Senate agreed to require Bolivia and Peru to control narcotic production in their countries before qualifying for U.S. assistance.

It also urged construction of a new building in Geneva to house U.S. Soviet arms control talks and rejected a move to prevent U.S. funds from being used to implement El Salvador's land reform programme.

Leaders of the Republican-controlled Senate said they hoped to complete action on the bill Wednesday.

## Shultz: Vienna meeting produced no accord on summit

VIENNA (Agencies) — Secretary of State George P. Shultz, heading for home after critical talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko, said Wednesday the two superpowers had not been able to set a time or place for a U.S.-Soviet summit meeting.

There was no indication even, that the subject came up during their six-hour session at the Soviet embassy on Tuesday.

As yet, Mr. Shultz told Austrian Television, "we have been not able to settle on when or where that meeting will take place."

He said both sides obviously were interested in an exchange of views between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev, but "we just have nothing to add to what is already known."

Mr. Reagan has invited Mr. Gorbachev to Washington, but the Soviets apparently are more interested in holding the meeting in New York in September when world leaders are attending a special session of the U.N. General Assembly.

Before leaving, Mr. Shultz had a ten-minute session with Mr. Gromyko, accompanied only by interpreters. They left the session smiling and walked together down the stairs from the Belvedere Palace, where they attended ceremonies marking the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Austrian State Treaty.

While the two sides have agreed in principle months ago to have their leaders meet, a spate of denunciations in recent weeks appeared to have increased tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Earlier, Mr. Shultz told reporters after meeting Austrian Chancellor Fred Sinowatz that a Reagan-Gorbachev summit could be useful, but added: "There is no settlement about when and where."

Mr. Shultz gave no further details of his talks with Mr. Gromyko, largely taken up with the issue of disarmament.

He briefed foreign ministers from Britain, France, Italy and West Germany on the talks at breakfast before attending ceremonies marking the 30th anniversary of Austria's post-war independence.

In a speech at the ceremony Mr. Gromyko referred briefly to the key Soviet concern in latest arms limitation talks, preventing an arms race in space.

Mr. Gromyko told 11 foreign ministers from East and West gathered in the marble hall of the 17th century Belvedere Palace that the Soviet Union wanted a return to détente, to avoid an atomic catastrophe and "to stop the mad arms race."

"The Soviet Union will not permit placing arms in space, and the efforts of Soviet foreign policy are concentrated on this," he said.

## Arafat offers conditional acceptance of 242

WASHINGTON (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat is ready to accept a U.N. resolution recognising Israel's right to exist if the United States endorses the right of Palestinians self-determination, the Washington Post reported Wednesday.

Mr. Arafat's qualified endorsement of Security Council Resolution 242 appeared designed to improve chances for discussions between the PLO and the United States, which has refused since 1975 to have official contacts with the PLO until it recognised Israel.

"We are not refusing 242 because it is a resolution," Mr. Arafat said in an interview Tuesday in Amman, with reporters from the Washington Post and the Los Angeles Times. "We are refusing 242 because it does not treat us as people."

Asked if he would accept the resolution by name if the United States explicitly endorsed Palestinian self-determination, Mr. Arafat answered, "absolutely," the Post said.

Would he accept Israel's right to exist? "I would accept all the international legality. It is very clear what I am saying. Simple and clear. We are not against this resolution," the Post quoted him as saying.

The resolution recognises Israel's right to exist in peace if it withdraws from Arab lands occupied in the 1967 war.

The Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the PLO on a common strategy towards a peaceful solution of the Palestinian problem states that the PLO accepts all U.N. and Security Council resolutions on the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem.

However, subsequent PLO Executive Committee statements have said that the organisation does not accept only 242, which describes the Palestinian problem as one of refugees and does not provide for a Palestinian state.

The United States has promised Israel it will not deal with the PLO unless the organisation explicitly accepts 242.

This has complicated efforts to establish a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to open talks with the U.S. prior to broader peace talks.

U.S. officials had no immediate comment on Mr. Arafat's latest statements, but they and Israeli officials have said in the past that "self-determination" would mean an eventual Palestinian state, which both governments have ruled out.

Secretary of State George Shultz sought ways around this in talks in Israel, Egypt and Jordan last week. But he said there were no breakthroughs and Mr. Arafat said in the interview today that "nothing has changed."

He also said the Feb. 11 accord between Jordan and the PLO, which gave rise to the latest peace hopes, was "very important and a very concrete agreement."

But he said this has not in fact changed anything because the U.S. administration was "completely tied to this American-Israeli connection," the PLO leader said.

A U.S. State Department spokesman confirmed Tuesday that the formation of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation were questions of serious discussion during Mr. Shultz's visit to the Mideast.

Deputy spokesman Edward Djerjian said:

"I'm not going to get into the specifics of what occurred during the secretary's talks and discussions in the Middle East. I would state that the question of the formation of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, its composition and our possible meeting with such a delegation are all questions which have been under serious discussion among the parties, and especially during the secretary's trip. But I really can't go beyond that at this point."

He refused to comment on reports that Jordan is insisting on a joint delegation that includes members of the PLO.

## Mubarak begins visit to Turkey

ANKARA (Agencies) — Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak arrived in Ankara Wednesday for a four-day visit to discuss Middle East peace efforts, the Iran-Iraq war and other regional issues, the Turkish Foreign Ministry said.

Mr. Mubarak was greeted by his host, President Kenan Evren, at Ankara's Esenboga airport and was presented a symbolic golden key to the capital.

Mr. Mubarak's visit, the first to Turkey by an Egyptian head of state, follows Turkey's support for Egypt's readmission last year to the 45-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) at its Casablanca summit.

Turkey, like Egypt, has diplomatic relations with Israel, the issue which caused Cairo's exclusion after signing a 1979 treaty with the Jewish state.

A state ceremony was held at the airport Wednesday and Mr. Mubarak and his wife were met by cheering crowds of children who waved Turkish and Egyptian flags. The couple later drove through rain-soaked, flag-bedecked streets into the city.

Mr. Evren told journalists at the airport that talks would cover regional issues and a range of other questions, the semi-official Anatolian news agency reported. "We have a deep-rooted common history," he said. Egypt was until 1914 a semi-autonomous part of the Ottoman empire.

Mr. Mubarak was meeting Mr. Evren later Wednesday after laying a wreath at the mausoleum to the nation's founder, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, and seeing Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and other ministers Thursday, officials said.

Prospects for ending the Iran-Iraq war, in its fifth year, and an increase in bilateral trade, currently around \$145 million, will be on the agenda of the talks Thursday, they said.

## New Lebanese front calls for dialogue

BEIRUT (R) — A coalition of moderate Christian rightist leaders has been formed to try to work out a political settlement with Muslim leaders and end fighting which has claimed some 80 lives in Beirut over the past two weeks.

Former minister Michel Al Murr told Reuters Wednesday the "Christian Coalition for a United Lebanon" would seek dialogue with Muslim political factions which have rejected peace talks with the mostly Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia.

He said no militia members would be accepted into the coalition, formed Tuesday, because "there are certain factions which do not want to talk with them."

"Lebanese Forces" President Elie Hobeika last week urged all parties to "revert to the rules of dialogue," a swing away from the belligerent style of "forces" commander Samir Geagea.

Muslim leaders have refused talks with Mr. Hobeika because of his past links with Israel and alleged involvement in the 1982 massacres at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps outside Beirut.

Mr. Murr said Mr. Hobeika had already agreed to abide by decisions of the coalition, headed by an 18-man constituent assembly of former ministers and parliamentary deputies.

Mr. Murr said he expected Muslim leaders to negotiate with the coalition. "If they refuse dialogue with us, they will be refusing dialogue with all (Lebanese) Christians," he added.

Another coalition member, Fuad Boutros, said the group, which included no current members of the mostly Christian "Palestine" or other political parties, would strive to maintain Lebanese independence and close ties with Syria.

Mr. Boutros, a former foreign minister, said the coalition would remain independent and not become a political party.

A source close to Mr. Hobeika said the "Lebanese Forces" militia was eager to see the new coalition gathering form, but did not want it to have any direct relationship with Amin Gemayel.

## Senior UNRWA official kidnapped in Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Armed men kidnapped a senior Irish United Nations official in West Beirut Wednesday, bundling him into a car after smashing the windshield of a U.N. vehicle and holding a gun to his driver's head.

Aidan Walsh, 46, deputy director for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) which assists Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, was seized on a seaford boulevard while going to work at 7.15 a.m. (0415 GMT), UNRWA officials said.

He was the second UNRWA official and the 12th foreigner abducted in Lebanon this year. But he was the first victim since a wave of kidnappings in March, and the first Irishman ever seized in Lebanon.

There was no immediate indication of what group was responsible for the abduction. An UNRWA official said two

cars with eight gunmen in green camouflage fatigues blocked Mr. Walsh's saloon car, painted in the blue and white U.N. colours and flying the U.N. flag.

"Four men jumped out, pointed Kalashnikov rifles and pistols at Walsh and ordered him out of the car," the official said.

"The Palestinian driver tried to argue with them, saying Walsh was Irish and UNRWA was helping people in Lebanon, but one of the men smashed his windshield with a rifle butt and held a cocked rifle to his head," the official said.

Two gunmen then grabbed Mr. Walsh by the arms as another pushed him from behind. They bundled him into the back seat of a car and drove off with a gunman on either side of him.

Mr. Walsh, who is also UNRWA's chief relief services officer in Lebanon, has been in Beirut since September. His wife

and three children live in Dublin. He was seized nearly two months after British journalist Alec Collett, on assignment as an UNRWA information consultant in Beirut, was kidnapped just south of the capital on March 25.

Mr. Collett was among nine foreigners abducted in March. One, a Dutch Jesuit priest, was found murdered in the eastern Bekaa Valley and four were freed, but the rest are still held.

Mr. Walsh's kidnapping brought to 10 the total of foreigners still missing after abduction in Lebanon this year and in 1984.

They include five Americans, two French diplomats, a Saudi Arabian diplomat and the Irish and British UNRWA officers.

Anonymous callers saying they represented "Islamic Jihad" (holy war), a shadowy fundamentalist group, have claimed responsibility for most of the abductions.

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# Cairo police break up anti-Israeli demonstration

CAIRO (R) — Riot police used batons to disperse 300 demonstrators who burned the Israeli flag outside the Cairo synagogue Wednesday while Egyptian and Israeli officials met on the city outskirts to negotiate over a border dispute.

Reporters saw police with electrified batons like cattle prods surge from a cordon thrown round the synagogue in the city centre and chase the protesters down shuttered streets. Several people were arrested and pulled into police cars.

It was not clear why police broke up the protest after they had earlier said they would not intervene unless there was violence. The demonstrators had raised a banner saying "get out of our country, Zionists and mass killers" in front of the synagogue.

On Cairo's outskirts, at the Mena House Hotel in the shadow of the Great Pyramid of Cheops, negotiators from Israel and Egypt met with U.S. observers on the future of Taba, a tiny enclave in Sinai which Egypt wants back from Israel.

Riot police sealed off the synagogue and surrounding streets causing huge traffic snarls-up. An officer at the scene said they would not disperse the protesters if the affair stayed peaceful.

Some demonstrators wore stickers bearing portraits of the late Gamal Abdul Nasser and women wrapped themselves in the Palestinian flag. "Palestine is Arab. The blood of our martyrs was not shed in vain," they chanted.

In 1979 Egypt became the only Arab state to sign a peace treaty

with Israel. The protest followed a story in Al Shaab, newspaper of the opposition Socialist Labour Party, saying Israel's independence would be celebrated Wednesday at the synagogue.

The Israeli embassy said the celebrations were in fact held by Hebrew calendar on April 25. Security around the talks at the Mena House, a famed conference venue used in World War II by U.S. President Roosevelt and Britain's Winston Churchill, was unprecedented.

As the Egyptian, Israeli and U.S. diplomats conferred, armed police rimmed the site and checked cars while the lobby was thick with plainclothesmen.

A senior Israeli delegation arrived in Cairo Tuesday night expressing confidence it could help resolve outstanding problems between the two countries.

Avraham Tamir, director-general of the office of Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, told reporters after the delegation arrived: "We are confident we shall find a common language with our Egyptian colleagues and together we can work up solutions to all outstanding problems."

President Hosni Mubarak has made a return of his ambassador to Tel Aviv, whom he withdrew in 1982 in protest at the Israeli inv-

asion of Lebanon, contingent on resolving the Taba issue and on a total Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

While discussions on Taba top the agenda, the two sides will also be talking about the fate of Palestinian refugees in Canada Camp in Rafah, near the Israeli border.

Refugees at Canada Camp have been cut off from their families in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip since Israel returned the Sinai peninsula to Egypt in 1982.

A U.S. embassy spokesman in Cairo said U.S. delegates would be present at the talks as observers but Israeli diplomatic sources in Cairo said the U.S. observers would only be present during negotiations on Taba.

An official with the Egyptian delegation said: "We shall all be there and everybody will have their hands in the pot."

He said Egypt would not agree to an Israeli proposal that the two countries jointly administer Taba, a 700-metre strip of land where the Israelis have established a flourishing tourist resort.

"It would be like two men marrying the same woman, can you imagine it?" the official, who declined to be named, told reporters.

Other members of the Israeli delegation are David Kimche, director-general of the Foreign Ministry and Menachem Eitan, head of the Armed Forces' Strategic Planning Branch.

The Egyptian team is headed by Abdul Halim Badawi, Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Maguid's assistant for legal affairs.



Anti Israeli demonstrators protesting in front of Cairo's synagogue Wednesday carrying banners as police look on (AP wirephoto)

## Libyan leader criticises Mobutu for Israeli links

BUJUMBURA (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has attacked President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire, currently in Israel, for restoring diplomatic links with the Jewish state.

Col. Qadhafi, on a three-day visit to Burundi, accused Mr. Mobutu at a state banquet Tuesday night of "bowing before the Zionists, the mortal enemies of the Palestinian people."

"I am here near his border and I challenge him," said Col. Qadhafi. His speech was broadcast over national radio but was interrupted after his remarks about the Zairean leader.

Zaire restored diplomatic links with Israel three years ago, the first country to do so after 27 African states broke off ties on the eve of the 1973 Middle East war.

Col. Qadhafi's wife, Safia, Tuesday gave Burundi officials \$55,000 for a centre for the disabled and an orphanage she visited with President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza's wife Fausta.

It is Col. Qadhafi's first visit to this small East African state since the two countries signed a 1973 cooperation accord.

Meanwhile, Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin Tuesday told visiting Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko that Israel would expand its military aid to Zaire despite its own economic difficulties.

"The intention is to continue and expand the cooperation," Mr. Rabin told reporters. "Whatever

will be required, we will do."

Israel Radio reported that Mr. Mobutu had been promised an expanded military aid programme, including a new division for his army, by former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon.

It said he was upset that despite economic difficulties, the Israelis were unable to help. But Mr. Mobutu denied he had come to ask for aid.

"I came as a friend," he said after touring air force and naval bases. "I have spoken with friends and we've had good results."

Mr. Mobutu, one of Israel's few friends in Africa, earlier signed cooperation accords on insuring Israeli investments in Zaire, opening air links and increasing Israeli agricultural aid, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Israel is secretive about its military aid, but press reports say it has provided Zaire with about 20 military advisers as well as weapons, including Galil assault rifles.

In a meeting with Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Mr. Mobutu said it was "only a matter of time" before a number of African states renewed diplomatic ties with Israel, an Israeli official said.

At a state dinner, Mr. Mobutu called on Israel to accept the need for a Palestinian state and urged Arab nations to recognise the Jewish state.

Israel has promised to provide 60 grants for Zaireans to receive technical training here.

## Bahrain to receive 6 F-5 jets

BAHRAIN (R) — Bahrain will take delivery in November of six Northrop F-5 fighters, its first fixed-wing combat aircraft, aviation sources said Wednesday.

The jets will initially be based at the commercial airport at Muharraq but will transfer, probably in 1987, to a new air base being built in the desert in the south of Bahrain Island, the sources said.

A senior air force official declined to confirm or deny the report.

The sources said the Gulf state had initially considered buying Northrop's new F-20 Tigerhawk fighters and borrowing six F-5s from Saudi Arabia, which has over 100 F-5 fighters and trainers, to bolster its air defences temporarily.

But it has now opted to buy new F-5s — four Sidewinder missile-carrying F-5E fighters and two F-5F two-seater trainers — at a total cost of over \$100 million, instead of the F-20, the sources said.

The Tigerhawk is a \$15 million fighter developed by Northrop primarily for the third world market. The company has spent \$800 million developing the plane since the early 1980s, but has yet to sell any.

The F-5 has been in services with more than a dozen air forces around the world for over 10 years. Bahraini pilots have already been trained to fly the new fighters, the sources said.

## U.S. unlikely to alter moves against 'terrorism'

NEW YORK — A year ago, senior administration officials agreed unanimously to set up counter-terrorist groups to take pre-emptive and punitive action. At the same time, intelligence operatives said the groups were unlikely to get the United States into trouble.

There was no question about the seriousness of the problem of combating terrorism. And officials said the administration was united on the need to do so by improving the collection of intelligence and warnings of planned terrorist actions. But there was doubt that any kind of covert action could be taken effectively, particularly in Lebanon.

The split between the policy-makers who felt the need to be tough on terrorism and the professionals charged with implementing the policy has plagued the administration from the outset.

On Tuesday the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) issued a statement saying that it had not had advance knowledge of the bombing. In addition, intelligence sources said the agency had no connection to the Lebanese "counterterrorism" group that reportedly hired the bombers. But that was disputed by some administration and congressional officials who said the agency was working with the group at the time of the bombing.

The CIA statement did not seem to go to the core issue. For example, it said that the CIA had not trained those who carried out the bombing. But the statement included no specific denial that the agency had been working with Lebanese intelligence. The White House declined comment altogether.

Administration officials said President Reagan had cancelled his order directing CIA-Lebanese intelligence cooperation in "counterterrorism" within a day or two after the March 8 bombing. But by then, the damage had been done and the risks run, causing administration officials to once again evaluate what they realistically could and should do "to combat terrorism."

An administration official involved in intelligence said that, a year ago, there was agreement on "the need to pre-empt terrorists," but that concern about the risk to innocent civilians had been voiced. He also said "retaliation by terrorists was also feared."

"The best we can do to counter terrorism is to improve counterintelligence, not cou-

nterterrorist capabilities," he added. "That way, we can get our people out of harm's way."

But this was not the thinking that prevailed on April 3, 1984, when officials said President Reagan signed a directive calling for "pre-emptive, preventive and retaliatory action against terrorists and against countries sponsoring terrorism."

Officials said the policy was supported by Secretary of State George Shultz, Robert McFarlane, the national security adviser, and William J. Casey, director of CIA.

As a result of these moves, officials said, American intelligence agents and military personnel began financing, training, sharing information and in other ways supporting groups in friendly countries to combat terrorists.

The officials said there were no plans to use Americans in other countries, which meant relying on foreigners in the employ of the other governments.

Many American intelligence operatives had doubts about their ability to control the foreign counterterrorists. They were concerned about the United States' taking responsibility for the programme without being able to control it, especially in Lebanon, where government and the intelligence organisation are divided.

In Lebanon, the officials said, American intelligence was hot on the heels of Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, a Shi'ite leader who has been linked to attacks on American installations throughout the Middle East. Lebanese intelligence operatives were on his tracks, too, but for other reasons, the officials said.

Administration officials said that CIA had not decided what it wanted to do about Mr. Fadlallah, but that some Lebanese intelligence officials had their own scores to settle with him. The Lebanese could not move against him as a government unit because Shi'ites were now part of the Lebanese government, so according to the accounts offered by administration officials, the Lebanese intelligence organisation hired outsiders.

Even after the attempt to kill Mr. Fadlallah on March 8, the officials said, administration leaders were not ready to abandon the policy. On March 25, Mr. McFarlane said in a speech, "We cannot and will not abstain from forcible action to prevent, pre-empt or respond to terrorist acts where conditions merit the use of force."

## Soviet press highlights Israeli message

WASHINGTON — The Soviet Union's two most authoritative newspapers have prominently featured messages from Israel in a move suggesting that the Kremlin may be interested in mending fences with the Jewish state.

On Tuesday night, the government newspaper Izvestia gave unusual prominence to a message Israeli President Chaim Herzog sent to Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, on the 40th anniversary of the allied victory over Nazi Germany.

It was the first time a communication by an Israeli leader was published in the Soviet press since Moscow broke relations with Israel during the 1967 Middle

East war. The publication of Mr. Herzog's message suggested that the Israeli president should expect a reply from Mr. Gorbachev.

Meanwhile Israel has admitted obtaining several U.S.-made timing devices that can be used to manufacture atomic weapons but denied that any of the devices were used for nuclear purposes or sent to other countries.

The admission was made by the Israeli Defence Ministry Sunday after Newsweek magazine reported that a federal grand jury in Los Angeles is investigating whether the devices, known as krytrons, were smuggled from the United States in violation of U.S. export laws.

If Israel is found to have been involved in smuggling the devices, the situation could have major international consequences, including possible cutoff of all U.S. aid to Israel, which is the largest recipient of American foreign assistance.

Legislation recently introduced by Rep. Stephen J. Solarz would bar aid to any country violating U.S. export laws for production of nuclear explosive devices.

But the sources, who declined to be identified, said they are confident that investigation will show the Israeli government was not involved in wrongdoing or other activities that could affect U.S. aid.

## TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	BBC WORLD SERVICE
7:00 News Channel	7:00 News Channel
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## WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	EXHIBITIONS
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## FOR THE TRAVELLER

# QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (06) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

## ARRIVALS

09:15	Bucharest (RO)
10:30	Aqaba (RJ)
10:45	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:45	Kuwait (RJ)
10:45	Jeddah (RJ)
10:45	Cairo (RJ)
11:00	Dhahran (RJ)
11:00	Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:00	Beirut (RJ, MEA)
11:05	Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
12:30	Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
12:50	Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
14:35	Kuwait (KU)
16:45	Cairo (RJ)
16:45	Baghdad (IA)
17:15	Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (AL)
18:00	London, Athens (RA)
18:15	Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
18:25	Athens (RJ)
18:30	New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:45	Belgrade, Istanbul (RJ)
18:55	Amsterdam, Larnaca (KLM)
19:05	Athens, Damascus (OA)
20:15	Kuwait (RJ)
20:35	Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
20:45	London, Athens (RA)
23:20	Cairo (MS)
01:10	Baghdad (RJ)
01:45	Cairo (RJ)

## DEPARTURES

06:20	Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
06:45	Cairo (RJ)
08:00	Beirut (RJ, MEA)
08:15	Athens (RJ)
09:00	Damascus, Paris (AF)
12:00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:15	Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)
12:30	Riyadh, Dhahran (RJ)
13:00	Athens (RJ)
13:00	Paris, London (RJ)
13:20	Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
13:45	Ankara, Istanbul (RJ)
14:00	Beirut, Abu Dhabi (GF)
15:35	Kuwait (KU)
15:45	Larnaca (CY)
18:15	Baghdad (IA)
19:00	London, Athens (RA)
20:30	Kuwait (RJ)
20:40	Doha, Muscat (RJ)
21:10	Cairo (RJ)
21:15	Jeddah (RJ)

British Press Review 11:15 Shakespeare and Music 11:30 A Word in Edgeways 12:00 World News 12:09 News About Britain 12:15 The World Today 12:30 British Masters 12:30 Look Ahead 12:45 At Home With... 13:00 King of Swing 13:15 Merchant Navy Programme 13:30 Good Friday Meditation 14:00 World News 14:49 News About Britain 14:51 In the Morning 14:55 A Letter from England 15:00 Meditation 15:00 Radio Newsworld 15:15 Jazz for the Asking 15:45 Sports Round-up 16:00 Outlook: News Summary 16:09 24 Hours News: News Summary 16:30 John Peel 17:00 News Summary: Voyage to the Holy Land 17:45 Letterbox 18:00 Radio Newsworld 18:15 Roy Prince Minister 19:00 World News 19:20 Commentary 19:15 Science in Action 19:45 The World Today 20:30 World News 20:49

21:50	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
21:55	Cairo (RJ)
22:40	Abu Dhabi, Singapore, (RJ)
00:20	Cairo (MS)
00:25	London (BA)

## MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

—	Wakagi Kumaru
—	Swedish Transporter
—	Kairo
—	Amers Bek
—	Angle N
—	Nikolyi Vilkov

Amir Kavar and Sons Company, Tel: 622324 (six lines) at your service.

## MONEY EXCHANGE

### Wednesday rates

Local sell/buy rates in JLS	
Belgian franc	659 / 65.5
Swiss guild	116.2 / 117.1
Egyptian guinea	287 / 291.3
French franc	43 / 43.3
Iraqi dinar	400.6 / 406.6
Italian lire (for 100)	20.4 / 20.7
Japanese yen (for 100)	109.2 / 109.9
Kuwaiti dinar	1331.8 / 1336
Lebanese lira	24.2 / 25.1
Omani riyal	1156.7 / 1166.6
Saudi riyal	109.9 / 111
Saudi riyal	111.5 / 112.1
Swedish crown	45.6 / 45.2
Swiss franc	154.9 / 156.1
Syrian lire	56.1 / 57
U.A.E. dirham	109.3 / 109.8
U.K. sterling pound	504.9 / 508.9
U.S. dollar	401.5 / 404
W. German mark	131.1 / 132.1

## WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A little increase in temperature is expected, with northwesterly light to moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Amman	12 / 35
Aqaba	19 / 33
Beirut	19 / 33
Jordan Valley	15 / 32
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 23, Aqaba 31.	
Humidity readings: Amman 41 per cent, Aqaba 25 per cent.	

and the Oratorio 20:40 Book Choice 20:45 Sports Round-up 21:00 Outlook: News Summary 21:30 British Spring Quarters 22:00 News Summary: Voyage to the Holy Land 22:45 Stock Market Report: 22:45 About Britain 23:00 World News 23:09 24 Hours: News Summary 23:30 Science in Action 24:00 News Summary 01:05 Music Now 01:40 Countdown 01:50 World News 01:59 The World Today 02:25 A Letter from England 03:00 Sacred Symphonies 03:40 Reflections 03:45 Sports Round-up 03:50 World News: Commentary 02:15 From the Weeklies 02:30 The Elements of Music.

## AMMAN AIRPORT

10:30	Aqaba (RJ)
10:45	Kuwait (RJ)



## German experts to conduct study on Lejun oil shale

AMMAN (J.T.) — Memoranda between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Federal Republic of Germany were signed and exchanged Wednesday at the Ministry of Planning.

The memoranda deal with executing the first stage of a feasibility study on exploiting oil from oil shale, found in abundance in Al Lejun area south of Jordan.

The memoranda stipulate that the German government, with the assistance of German expertise, equipment and all machinery needed for the first stage, will explore and determine whether there are underground water reserves in the

Lejun area. The experts will then gather information about the oil shale in order that studies and planning for constructing a trial extraction plant in the area are comprehensively covered.

The German government will also finance the first stage of this project which is estimated to reach DM 1,900,000. This sum is part of Germany's technical aid to Jordan for the year 1984.

The memoranda were signed by Minister of Planning Abdullah Al-Nsour and by Mr. Rudiger Lemp, the charge d'affaires at the German embassy in Amman.

## Muasher examines means to facilitate import procedures

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajai Muasher Wednesday emphasised the need to implement a new amendment to the existing import system. The new amendment should be in harmony with the current economic circumstances and should also provide necessary facilities for traders and the public to obtain import licences, Dr. Muasher said.

The minister's requests were made during a meeting with Trade Department Director Shawqi Haddadin and staff at the ministry. Dr. Muasher also reviewed the Trade Department's achievements, projects and goals.

Following the meeting, which was attended by the ministry's undersecretary, Dr. Ibrahim Badran, Mr. Haddadin told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the minister called on staff to facilitate procedural methods.

The minister also said that he would look into utilising computers to handle fees for import and export licences in order to obtain accurate statistical data. This data would contribute to organising import archives and records, Mr. Haddadin said, adding that approximately 80,000 import licences are issued by the ministry each year.

## Conferees review working papers on status of women

AMMAN (Petra) — A conference on "The Jordanian Women: Facts and Aspirations", which was opened by Her Majesty Queen Noor on Tuesday, continued its deliberations Wednesday.

Fourteen papers presented by various participants were reviewed during Wednesday's meetings. A paper presented by Dr. Mohammad Bashir of the Ministry of Health reviewed Jordanian women's health and the effects of early marriages, inter-family marriages, women's standards of education and the effect of laws on their health.

Another paper, prepared by the Higher Nursing Committee, reviewed the vocation of nursing in Jordan, the nursing situation, the role of the nurses association and the reasons behind Jordanian women's reluctance to work as nurses.

The state of Arab women under Israeli occupation was the subject of a paper presented by Dr. Suhaila Rimawi of Jordan University.

Mrs. Minwer Khreis presented

a paper on women's role in the voluntary movement in the East Bank of Jordan.

The Committee on "Women, Equality and Peace" at the conference reviewed papers on women's political participation. They included a paper presented by Amman Deputy Governor Khalid Zolabi on the political status of women in Jordan. A second paper presented by Mrs. Butheina Jandaneh tackled an international labour agreement on working women whilst another paper presented by Mrs. Rabeh Dabbas discussed women as leaders and decision-makers.

The conference has been divided into two committees: the first on women, development and peace and the second on women, equality and peace.

On Tuesday afternoon the conference discussed six different papers on women's education and training in Jordan, women's higher education, women and the family, women in Islam, women and legislation and a comparative study on women in Islam and in other cultures.



KING HONOURS CHINESE ENVOY: Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri (left standing) makes a speech during a luncheon held in honour of outgoing Chinese Ambassador to Jordan Huang Shihde. During the luncheon Mr. Masri presented Mr. Shihde with the Independence Medal of the First Order conferred upon the Chinese envoy by His Majesty King Hussein (Petra photo)

## Hmoud suggests national conference to tackle municipalities' problems

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Al Hmoud Wednesday stressed the importance of convening a national conference to tackle issues related to Jordanian municipalities in order to solve their problems.

During his meeting with a number of municipality mayors at the Army Officers' Club in Zarqa, Mr. Hmoud added that "Jordanian municipalities are facing organisational problems which are impeding their progress."

Mr. Hmoud called on all responsible officials to unify their efforts in order to 'revive' the cities.

Zarqa Governor Mohammad Al Dabbie assured the minister that Zarqa Governorate will implement and execute a plan concerning the development and organisation of the governorate.

Earlier Tuesday, Mr. Dabbie met with mayors, governors and members of the Zarqa Development Corporation. During their meeting they discussed subjects related to future plans as well as municipalities' problems and solutions to such problems.

Mr. Dabbie told the meeting that the city of Zarqa is offered the same services as other areas in the governorate.

On Tuesday afternoon the conference discussed six different papers on women's education and training in Jordan, women's higher education, women and the family, women in Islam, women and legislation and a comparative study on women in Islam and in other cultures.

governorate, despite the fact that it has the largest number of citizens. He added that Zarqa's roads and health services are of a good standard.

The governor mentioned the environmental problems which are largely due to the Zarqa River. He added that continuous efforts to solve the problems are being considered.

Mr. Dabbie said that the construction of a sewerage network for Zarqa, expected to be completed by the end of 1986, will help fight water pollution.

He also mentioned that car mechanics, garages and computer shops have all been moved to Zarqa's industrial area in order to reduce noise pollution which was a major discomfort for all Zarqa citizens.

"A traffic engineering department will be established very soon," the governor said, "and this department will replan and redesign all Zarqa's roads."

Zarqa prepares JD 16.6m five-year development plan

Concerning Zarqa's 1986-1990 five-year development plan, Mr. Dabbie said that main features of the plan are to construct Al Zawabir bridge at an estimated cost of JD 350,000 and to establish the

second part of a vegetable market at a cost of JD 100,000. Also, the second and third sections of the industrial area will be constructed at an estimated cost of JD 1,300,000.

Under the new plan five health centres, a public building for municipal offices and a joint-governorate slaughterhouse will be constructed in addition to the Zarqa sports city and eight cultural centres, he said.

The development plan also includes projects to open and upgrade a number of roads in the governorate.

The total cost of Zarqa's five year development plan is JD 16,612,000, out of which the municipality will pay JD 10,247,000.

President of Zarqa Development Corporation Tayseer Amari briefed the meeting on projects which the corporation has established, mainly public parks and gardens.

Mr. Amari said that the corporation's future plans are to establish more gardens, parks and public libraries.

Attending the meeting were mayors of Ma'an, Irbid, Salt, Madaba, Ramtha, Aqaba, Jerash, Ajloun, Jbeila municipalities as well as mayors of the Zarqa governorate's municipalities.

## Shultz outlines U.S. position over peace talks during Aqaba briefing

During his visit to Jordan this week, United States Secretary of State George Shultz gave a press conference Monday in Aqaba following talks with His Majesty King Hussein. Following is the transcript of the press conference.

Q: Speaking on behalf of Mrs. Shultz and myself, I can say that we've been treated royally here in Aqaba. King Hussein and Queen Noor have been most gracious, their hospitality has been warm and we've enjoyed ourselves. We also had an opportunity to talk with the King, the prime minister, the foreign minister, the chief of staff and others about matters of interest between the United States and Jordan and also, most importantly, about the peace process. There are clearly many difficulties between the present situation and the kind of stability and peace that I think people increasingly want very much in the Middle East. Everybody is conscious of these difficulties. But I think also there is an increasing sense of importance of somehow finding a way to discussion of those things that are necessary to be done if we are to achieve that peace and stability. The atmosphere is positive. And King Hussein has given essential elements of leadership in creating this positive atmosphere. And we are trying to respond and to help this process along. I regard the discussions we've had here as being very worthwhile in that sense. So, I again express my gratitude to the King for his hospitality and also for the positive contributions he's making to the search for peace in the Middle East.

Q: What kind of progress were you able to make, Mr. Secretary, on the issue of naming a list of Palestinians to the peace talks with the Israelis? Any progress at all?

Shultz: (Inaudible...) discuss a list of individual names or anything of that kind, but I think it is clear that direct negotiations between Israel and a Jordanian delegation must include Palestinians because Palestinians are the people who are very heavily involved and so they need to be represented. So, in some way a solution to this problem has to be found. We talked about various aspects of it but I don't want to get involved in any discussion of individual names.

Q: Mr. Secretary, before you began this leg of the trip in Lisbon I think it was, you said it was time to get down to individual people or names, I forget which word you used. Does that mean that you

which they have taken credit have been terrorist acts aimed at Israel and the charter calls for eliminating Israel. And I think if you put it in that context it's not difficult to see why Israel should have the attitude it has toward the PLO. But we are struggling to find that composition of Palestinian representation in talks aimed at peace that can be seen both as genuinely representative of Palestinians and acceptable in this process because I think everyone agrees that you can't talk about issues that are intimately related to the life of Palestinians without having Palestinians represented in the process. I think that's an obvious thing. And so everybody agrees with that.

Q: Mr. Secretary, you are going on to Vienna... (inaudible question about U.S. role in the peace process).

Shultz: Of course, we have ambassadors in all the chief countries who are first class people and we try to manage our affairs basically through our ambassadors. In addition, ambassadors Murphy and those travelling with him, will make their way back to the United States via a different route than I will and of course my prime purpose in coming here to meet with King Hussein was to discuss with him his upcoming visit in Washington and meeting with the president. And so we discussed elements of that and that was a prime purpose as we want to use that time when he and the president will be together and make that time be as fruitful as we possibly can.

Q: ... sense of timing in that respect? Do you expect the issue of names and individuals and affiliations and representation be dealt with in Washington then when the King comes to Washington?

Shultz: I have been trying to say indirectly but I'll say directly, I am just not going to get into the question of names and that kind of thing.

Q: (Inaudible...) getting into that question.

Shultz: I am not going to touch that.

Q: Mr. Secretary, did you discuss arms sales and transfers to Jordan or do you expect this to come up in Washington?

Shultz: I think that the issues here in the Middle East and movement toward peace has all sorts of political dimensions to it such as those that you've been raising in your questions.

## More 'concessions' needed to achieve regional peace, Middle East expert says

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — "When you have four million people who are active, educated and intelligent with their cause denied, you will have trouble until their claim is satisfied," says Richard Parker, editor-in-chief of the Middle East Journal.

"The Palestinian problem", according to Mr. Parker, a former U.S. ambassador who served his country for 30 years in the Middle East and North Africa, "will continue to cause instability in the region until it is solved."

He believes that the current diplomatic moves in the area mean that people are trying to explore whether there is a basis for negotiations or not. "The answer to that will depend on what the concessions are to be made by each side," Mr. Parker said in an interview with the Jordan Times.

He was speaking in reference to recent talks in the region by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, which followed a tour in the area by Mr. Shultz's assistant Richard Murphy aimed at exploring the possibility of starting a U.S. dialogue with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation as a first step to eventual Arab-Israeli negotiations.

"This is completely an exploratory phase which I'm sure will not lead anywhere unless parties involved would give more concessions than they say they will," Mr. Parker, who is currently on a study tour in the region, said.

"Nobody says what his real position is and I don't think Arabs and Israelis are saying what their real concessions are. They are always waiting to see more concessions on the other side," he said.

Mr. Parker who has been following Middle East developments closely for the last 35 years, said people in the area are "hypothesised by politics. This is what people here talk about. Things are happening here on the social, economic and cultural levels that are

changing political aspects of the problem", he said.

He explained that 30 years ago, Jordan was not an economically-viable country but with the (occupied) West Bank.

"Today, we have to change our minds about that. The country is viable with hard work and investments," he said, adding that before, "we overlooked the quality of the Jordanian people."

As a result of the economic and social changes, Mr. Parker said "that in the short run," it made the politics of the area more conservative and pragmatic. People nowadays are talking about national interests rather than ideologies," he added.

"In the long run," he said, "we have to ask what would happen if the Palestinian problem remained unsolved? Some are saying this would be the cause for future radicalisation in policies" in the region. A failure will continue the instability, he said.

If the Palestinian problem is resolved, "it would have a unifying impact on Arabs," Mr. Parker said. "If that problem is over, they will start working together and we will have economic and social prosperity in the area."

### U.S. policy

Commenting on the U.S.-policy in the Middle East, Mr. Parker said "I haven't agreed with their policy in the area."

Mr. Parker served as U.S. ambassador in Algeria, Lebanon and Morocco as well as serving in other positions in Amman, Jerusalem, Beirut and Cairo.

He pointed out the necessity of

starting a U.S. dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Describing the U.S. insistence not to deal with the PLO as a "foolish mistake," he said: "I don't see any progress until we find a way to talk to the PLO. I have said so for a long time," he remarked.

Mr. Parker left Amman for Damascus Wednesday as part of his tour of the region and is expected to return here on Saturday after visiting the occupied West Bank.

He is accompanied by Mr. Smith Hemphre, a syndicated columnist and former editor of the Washington Times. Mr. Shelly Scates, a journalist working for the Seattle Post Intelligence and Dr. William Beaman of the Pacific News Service — an agency which provides feature articles for American newspapers.

During their three-day stay here, the group met with Under Secretary of the Information Ministry Michel Hamarneh, Under Secretary of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs Ahmad Qatani and other officials.

They also met with officials of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) as well as visiting the agency's installations.

Mr. Parker who retired from the foreign service in 1980 took over as editor of the Middle East Journal in 1981. The quarterly publication is published by the Washington-based Middle East Institute, established in 1947 — the oldest specialised in Middle East issues. The institute is sponsored by UNRWA and the Foundation of Middle East peace in Washington D.C.

The Middle East Journal is mainly read by people interested in the Middle East such as lawyers operating in the area, businessmen, diplomats and government officials. They have 5,000 subscribers all over the world including 700 outside the United States.

## Donors gather to assess specifications, plans for JEA Aqaba thermal station

AMMAN (Petra) — The first conference for financiers of the second stage of the Jordan Electricity Authority's (JEA) Aqaba Thermal Power Station (ATPS) was opened at the JEA Wednesday by Minister of Planning Abdullah Al-Nsour in the presence of Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources and JEA Chairman of the Board Hisham Al Khatib.

In his inaugural speech, Dr. Nsour reviewed the achievements of the past five-year development plan (1981/1985) and its projects, one of which was the ATPS. The minister also outlined the station's contribution to meeting the increasing demand for electrical energy in Jordan. JEA Director General Mohammad Arafah also reviewed the electricity situation in

Jordan, the development of the JEA and its present and future projects. Speaking about the importance of the conference Mr. Arafah said in an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the JD 104 million project — large part of which will be financed by Arab and friendly countries or international institutions — includes the setting up of two 130 MW steam units. The first of these units is expected to be operational by the end of 1990 while the second unit will start operations at the beginning of 1991.

He also said that the technical specifications and the tender documents for this project will be prepared during the next few weeks and added that the project will be executed through six major tenders to be floated to world contractors in mid-1986.

Discussing the importance of the project, Mr. Arafah pointed out that the project is part of electrical power expansion projects being carried out by the JEA to meet the increasing demand for electricity. The project comes in view of the expected increase in demand for electricity in the future due to the continuing increase in the population of Jordan, the increase in the average individual's consumption of electricity, expansion in building and construction as well as demand for electricity to develop irrigation projects he said.

## Hebraic centre council holds talks today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Higher Council for the Arab Centre for Contemporary Hebrew Studies will meet at Yarmouk University Liaison Office Thursday.

The council will discuss a number of working papers related to the establishment of the centre, the centre's programme and financial possibilities.

The centre's director, Dr. Amin Mahmoud, told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the centre aims to increase Arab awareness about the dangers of Zionism in a scientific and logical way. This, he said, will be done through the collection of data, analysis of data and publishing research and studies which tackle all issues pertaining to Zionism.

Dr. Mahmoud said the centre will train and prepare Arab researchers in this field and will award higher studies scholarships.

He said that the centre was established by Royal Decree in 1979 and that the first step in setting up the centre was the construction of a library which includes a wealth of reference books written in Hebrew, English and Arabic.

Members of the centre include a number of Arab intellectuals; Egyptian journalist Mohammad Hassanain Helkel, Arab historian Shaker Mustafa, former Syrian diplomat to the United Nations George Tiamah and founder of the Palestinian Research Institute Anis Saegh. Members from Jordan include Her Highness Princess Alia, former Deputy Prime Minister Suleiman Arar, former Minister of Education and Senate member Thoghan Hindawi in addition to Dr. Albert Butros.



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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Lawzi holds talks with Soviet envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Alexander Zinchuk Wednesday discussed ways of bolstering bilateral relations especially in the parliamentary field. Mr. Zinchuk delivered to Mr. Lawzi a Soviet message addressed to world parliaments on the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II and the defeat of Nazism. Mr. Lawzi expressed Jordan's appreciation for the Soviet Union's stand in support of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

### Drug trafficker receives life imprisonment

AMMAN (Petra) — The military governor general has endorsed a military court decision convicting Khalaf Faleh in absentia on the charge of trafficking drugs and sentencing him to life imprisonment with hard labour and fining him JD 5,000.

### Ministry to attend regional health talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The Health Ministry will take part in a regional health conference to be held in Cyprus in July. The ministry will be represented at the six-day conference by the director of its Environmental Health Department, Mr. Mohammad Hussein.

### IDB loans JD 367,000 to industries

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) has granted 13 Jordanian industrial businesses loans totalling JD 367,000. Of these loans JD 61,000 will be used to finance the purchase of raw materials. According to an IDB spokesman, the national income expected from projects to be carried out through these loans will amount to JD 447,000 in the first year of production and will create 105 new jobs. The IDB, he said, has granted 30 loans totalling JD 947,000 to Jordanian industrial concerns since the beginning of 1985.

### New AMIDEAST director appointed

AMMAN (J.T.) — The director of America-Mideast Educational and Training Services (AMIDEAST) in Jordan, Mr. Alain McNamara, will shortly be returning to Washington after over four years in his post. Mrs. Janine El-Tal has been appointed director of the office to take over from Mr. McNamara.





## Balance requires change

THE SERIES of industrial, financial and trade meetings that the prime minister has been chairing since his appointment highlights the need to reexamine and review our development process on regular basis. Apart from some difficult extraneous circumstances, this process is hampered not so much by lack of resources as by wasting some valuable efforts and occasional mismanagement. Our development problems cannot always be blamed on the slow pace of industrialisation when we have not in fact been able to support properly our agricultural sector. And so on.

The question that will always remain to be answered is that of whether we are prepared to do whatever is necessary to meet our changing developmental needs when we do identify them and know where the real problems lie.

We can most probably survive for long without resources as we have been doing for many years. But we cannot for long ignore the fact that waste in existing resources has to be fought at all levels, all the time, in order to make our survival more healthy and meaningful. We have to keep up the search for the right balance between industrialisation and agriculture, and between productivity and trade. The road should be opened to support and upgrade all sectors simultaneously, without damaging our social structures, the environment, and our other values and material possessions.

The single most important achievement for Jordan, however, remains a socio-political one: that of taking action to meet our changing needs once they are identified. Here, the task is particularly difficult. But if genuine progress is sought, we have to take an approach that will take this need into account as the only alternative to chaos and panicking at the last moment.

To go into details of how our socio-political climate can be readied for the right change is both a long and complicated subject. But there is a problem here for the fresh government of Mr. Zaid Rifai to tackle, and Jordan needs to start talking about it — carefully and at length.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: Usurpation continues

THE PALESTINIAN people remember May 15, 1948 as the date when the process of usurping their lands by the Zionists began. For the past 37 years, the Palestinians have lived in camps scattered all over the Arab region and have been exposed to continuous criminal acts at the hands of the Israelis.

But throughout these 37 years, the Palestinians fought hard to regain their property and struggled to return to their homeland. They have denied the Israeli occupiers a period of rest to celebrate their victory, and continued to launch resistance attacks on these usurpers, making it difficult for them to live in peace and never enjoying the dream they wished to fulfil in Palestinian land.

Invasion can not last for ever and 37 years is nothing in the life of nations, who are determined to continue the struggle for liberation and freedom. Whatever atrocities and crimes the occupiers may commit in the Arab land, they will eventually have to leave because they are invaders. It is true that the Arab nation now seems weak and divided, but this period will pass by and the nation will regain its strength.

The Palestinians, who form part of this nation, will one day rise up and drive out the invaders. May 15 should serve as a day of remembrance and an occasion for reaffirming the determination and resolution to fight on to achieve freedom.

#### Al Dustour: Thirty-seven years of banishment

THE 37TH anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine comes this year as the Israeli enemy continues to drive out the Palestinians from their homeland until this very minute, while the Arabs look on, unable to do anything to help their kinsmen. The 37th anniversary witnesses a divided and weak Arab nation which watches the Israeli enemy getting stronger every day.

We can bitterly and regretfully say that the Arabs now are more divided and weaker than they had been in May 1948, when the Israeli invasion of Palestine began. After 37 years of occupation, the Arabs should realise the fact that there can be no right without power and that no power can be acquired without unity and solidarity. If the Arabs are to be strong and united, they should first forego their differences and transcend their disputes. The weakness of the Arabs causes Israel to be strong and united, and the more the Arabs become weak the stronger Israel becomes.

Since May 15, 1948, when the Israelis occupied our land, the Arab nation has gradually become weaker and more divided. This anniversary will continue to come every year and the sufferings of the Palestinians will continue to increase unless meaningful action is done to remove the weakness and nourish hope in the hearts of all Arabs.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Nuclear U.S. aid to Israel

SINCE THE establishment of the Zionist state in the Arab region in 1948, its leaders have been adopting an economic policy based on war. For this reason, the leaders of Israel have been claiming that their society suffers from poverty and is in need of constant economic and financial assistance from other nations.

They have been adopting this policy in order to ensure a continuous flow of funds from the United States to help build settlements on Arab land and complete their domination and hegemony on everything in the region. The economy of Israel is no doubt linked with that of the United States and since the latter is economically healthy, the former should be equally so, and any claim of an economic crisis is mere lies designed to help the Israeli society to continue milking the United States for more and more financial and economic assistance.

The economic and political affairs of Israel are skilfully and intricately worked out by the Zionist leaders in a way to pressure the United States to continue its help to the Israelis. The latest kind of assistance was in the form of smuggled electronic materials and radioactive minerals going to Israel from the United States to help the Israelis to manufacture more nuclear bombs with which to fight the Arabs. Israel has refused to sign an international non-proliferation nuclear treaty.

### VIEW FROM AMERICA

## A long, long way to go before peace comes

SAN FRANCISCO — People outside the U.S. may not have given it much attention, but there has been a big uproar in the country over President Reagan's visit to a German cemetery. The grave contains some 47 graves of S.S. soldiers. Jewish groups and veterans' associations in the U.S. have denounced the visit. The German government has been plunged into a political crisis. U.S.-German relations have become strained. Yet the real reasons for the uproar do not have that much to do with Germany.

What has given impetus to the Jewish protests in particular has been their growing sense that the Reagan administration is putting pressure on Israel to come to terms with the Palestinians. To most Arabs, the Reagan administration looks like the usual

American catspaw of Israel with which the world has been familiar since 1948. But in fact, since Mr. Nixon, Washington has been slowly but surely loosening the Israeli grip on itself. And the Israelis know this so they have intensified their attempts to get a grip on Congress, on the media, and on public opinion.

Mr. Reagan and Mr. Shultz and most other members of the current administration are personally pro-Israel. Yet both of them know by now that the U.S. has no choice but to come to terms with the Arab World. The U.S. wants the Palestinian issue resolved. If not, it is convinced that the Arab World will turn towards Russia as it did in the late 1960's, or that it will be swept over by radical Shi'ism. It was Mr. Reagan who gave the green light for the evacuation of the PLO from

Beirut, and Mr. Reagan who fired Alexander Haig when he gave the green light to Ariel Sharon to plunge into Lebanon.

In the last presidential election, Jewish voters in the U.S. largely voted for Mr. Mondale, not Mr. Reagan. There is probably less direct Jewish and Israeli influence on the Reagan administration than in any recent history. This has disturbed many Jewish leaders. So when the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II came around this year, a widespread campaign of remembrance of the "holocaust" was organised.

It was Mr. Reagan's decision to visit the German cemetery that gave an opening to the Zionist lobby to aim a powerful blow at Mr. Reagan. Mr. Reagan stumbled and the blows continued to rain in on him.

Congress asked that the visit not take place. And sentiment throughout the country swung against Mr. Reagan. And even if the issue had been put in its real Middle Eastern and not camouflage German context, U.S. public opinion probably would have reacted similarly, except that the dramatic effect would have been lacking.

The Zionist lobby scored a major victory in the U.S. All the careful attempts to bring some kind of peace process into being may now have been swept away. Mr. Reagan feels vulnerable. His Central American policies have been rejected and, more ominously, the American economy shows signs of getting soft. Jimmy Carter, who created the Camp David process, has stepped forth to criticise Mr. Reagan — and he did that with satisfaction because Mr. Reagan

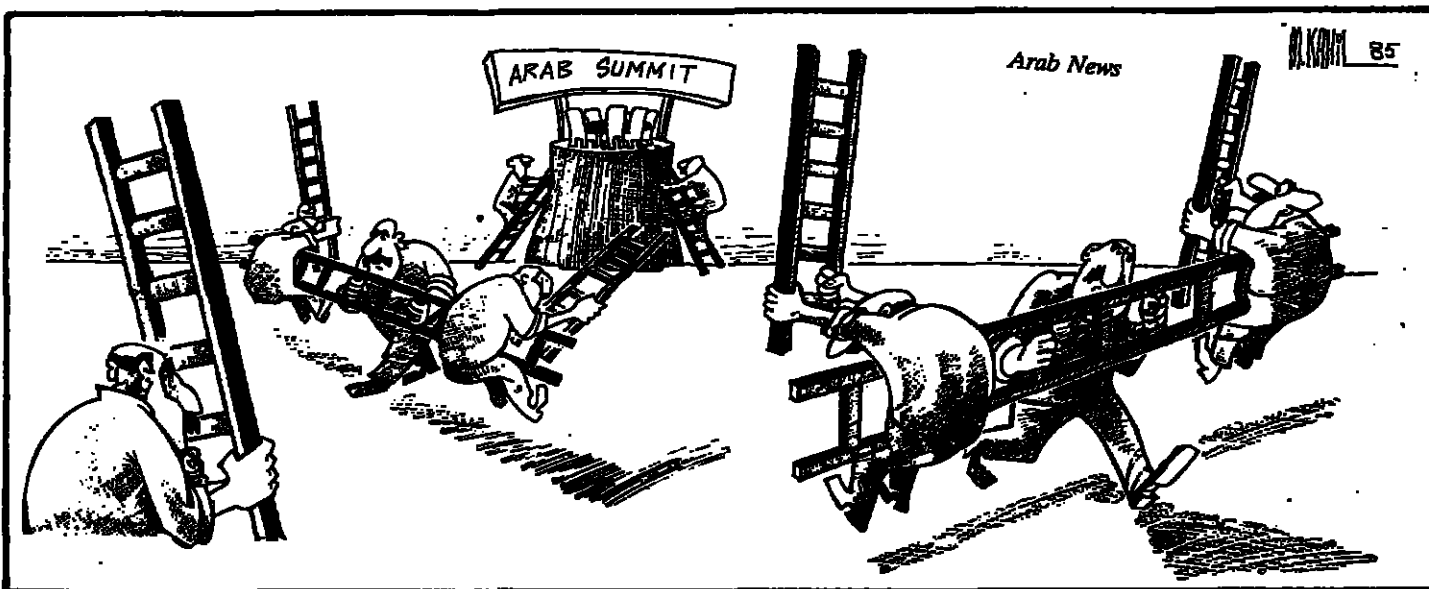
had been continuously attacking him over the last years. The world is always a dangerous place, but all the more so when American leadership is weakened. The U.S. has had three elected Republican presidents during the past 33 years. All three were elected for second terms by big margins. Mr. Eisenhower was beaten down into do-nothingness early in his second term (1957). Mr. Nixon was forced to resign because of Watergate (1973-1974). And now it seems as if it is Mr. Reagan's turn.

One cannot blame the Zionists for this, but the Zionists were clever enough to see that Mr. Reagan was weakening, and rushed in to attack when they espied an opening.

Despite all the ambiguity, Washington wants to see some sort of legitimate Palestinian entity that encompasses the

West Bank and the Gaza Strip. And the fact that it has not moved its embassy to Jerusalem indicates it still regards East Jerusalem as an issue to be negotiated. Despite the settlement process, the usurpation of land, the attempt to force Arabs out of the West Bank, the Israeli leaders know they can neither swallow nor digest Arab Palestine. Their only hope as a 20th century Crusader state was to have the unconditional support of the U.S. But a weakened U.S. leadership will not do them much good either. They are now pulling out of Lebanon, but chances of peace on their northern borders is less than it was before their invasion of that country.

It seems that we may have a long, long way to go before there is peace in the Middle East.



## Egypt-Sudan relations at crossroads?

By Bahgat Badie  
Reuters

CAIRO — Egypt is showing signs of alarm over a reconciliation between Sudan and Cairo's arch-foe Libya, worried that this may provoke anti-Egyptian sentiments in Khartoum, diplomats here say.

A 40-man Libyan delegation led by Major Abdul-Salam Jalloud, Colonel Muammar Qadhafi's right-hand, has been in Khartoum seeing the army rulers who ousted Egyptian and U.S. ally Jafar Numeiri in a coup on April 6.

Egypt has not reacted publicly to Libyan statements in Khartoum that Libya and Sudan now share identical views. But parliamentary sources said a leading member of an Egyptian People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee said in secret session on Sunday: "In the long run, it is not in Sudan's interests to throw itself into the arms of Libya."

Libya, like Syria, with which Khartoum is also trying to mend fences, is a radical Arab hardliner opposed to Egypt's U.S.-sponsored 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

The sources said the committee heard Foreign Ministry officials say Egypt understood Sudan wanting to improve relations with

Libya but could not tolerate attempts by some Sudanese politicians to undermine relations with Egypt.

Reflecting Egypt's anxiety, President Hosni Mubarak summoned his ambassador in Khartoum, Ahmad Mesharafa, for consultations on the Libyan-Sudanese reconciliation.

Since Pharaonic times, Egypt has gone to war rather than see a hostile power in Sudan astride the middle reaches of the life-giving River Nile. A defence pact was concluded with Ousted Numeiri, now in exile in Egypt, who ruled from 1969 and supported the 1979 Egyptian peace with Israel signed by Anwar Sadat.

Mr. Jalloud lost no time in sounding out the Sudanese on a union with Libya which he suggested Egypt might also join. In an interview with the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) he urged the new army leader, General Abdul-Rahman Swaredhahab, to strive for Libyan-Sudanese unity. "We in Libya are dreaming of a state that would also include Egypt," he said.

Sudan's prime minister, Al-Gazouli Dafaa-Allah, quickly declared, however, apparently to placate Egyptian fears, that "Sudan's improved relations with one country will not be at the expense of

another."

British Foreign Office Minister Richard Luce, after visiting Khartoum last week, said he thought the new rulers sought good relations with all their neighbours.

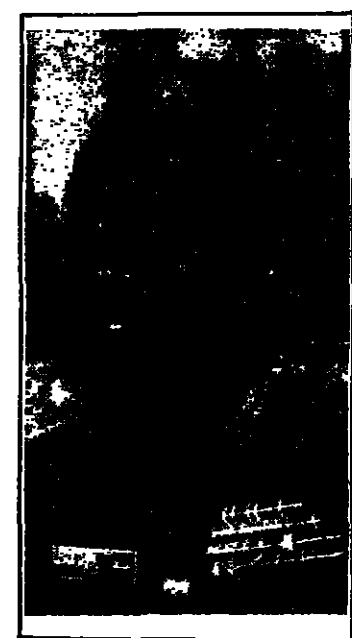
Mr. Luce said they particularly wanted help for the economy of the famine-stricken country of 22 million of Africa's poorest people and for ending a rebellion in southern Sudan.

In Khartoum, the Libyans said they would no longer support the southern rebel leader, dissident Colonel John Garang, and his People's Liberation Army (SPLA), and they also promised help with balance of payments and oil product purchases.

Egypt has been particularly irked by a trend to attack it among Sudanese politicians, freed from Mr. Numeiri's restrictions and gearing up for elections which the army promises in 12 months.

Mr. Numeiri's exile in Egypt has been the pretext for such attacks. Egypt, proud of being a haven for political refugees, is likely to reject calls to hand him over for trial.

The Sudanese Communist Party leader Mohammad Ibrahim Nigud took the lead when he called at a public rally in Khartoum University last Thursday for Mr. Numeiri to be tried for "the numerous crimes he has committed



Swaredhahab needs money and peace

against the Sudanese people."

Mr. Nigud, in his first public appearance in Khartoum after 15 years in hiding, also demanded abrogation of the 1978 defence pact with Egypt. He said it gave Egypt an excuse for a military presence in Sudan.

## New student activism focuses on apartheid

By Fred Bayles  
Associated Press

BOSTON — Sit-ins, teach-ins, civil disobedience: the language of the 1960s has returned to the U.S. campus this spring as students in growing numbers protest their universities' investments in companies that do business with South Africa.

Thousands have been arrested around the country, but the rallies and vigils are not just the rebirth of a spirit dormant since the angry days of Vietnam.

This new activism centres on an old issue. The subjects of apartheid and divestment have been the focus of a quieter protest waged for more than a decade.

"The seeds were planted by years of organising," said Josh Nessen of the American Committee on Africa, a 32-year-old organisation that coordinates anti-apartheid activities.

Mr. Nessen, who got involved as a student at Amherst College in 1977, said the past eight years had seen some 40 schools sell part or all of their investments in companies doing business in South Africa. "The issue has stayed alive and the organising never stopped," he said.

Apartheid — the policy that puts South Africa's 22 million blacks under the domination of 4.5 million whites — is not a new issue on the campus. One of the first demonstrations staged by the students for a democratic society was a 1965 rally on South Africa. Eclipsed by the civil rights and

anti-war movements of the 1960s and early 1970s, the cause gained new strength with the 1976 riots in the black South African township of Soweto and the 1977 death of Steven Biko, a South African black leader who died in police custody.

Divestment became a banner word as students loomed into their schools' investment portfolios. Among the early victories was the 1977 decision by tiny Hampshire college of Amherst, Mass., to divest itself of a modest \$70,000 in holdings after a two-day occupation by students.

The University of Massachusetts sold \$600,000 in investments that same year. The next year the University of Wisconsin sold 11 million dollars of South African-related investments. Other schools joined the divesting ranks: Howard University, Ohio University, Mithvian State and the Oregon State college system.

The trickle of divestment has increased over the past year. City University of New York sold off 10 million dollars in South African investments last fall. Brown, Rutgers and Yale made partial divestments. Dartmouth sold interest in a Texas bank making loans to South Africa.

Protests continue at some schools that have already divested under the so-called Sullivan principles, a voluntary code established by the Rev. Leon Sullivan, a black civil rights activist. Under it, companies can do business in South Africa if they offer equal pay and opportunity to

black and white employees.

Schools that have used the principle as a guide, like Rutgers, now are subject to demonstrations by students who argue for a total break with South Africa.

At some schools, like Harvard, divestment has been an issue for years.

When Michael Anderson was a freshman in 1979, he agreed with Harvard's refusal to accept student calls for divestment. "I thought they were throwing political tantrums," he recalled.

By graduation day, Mr. Anderson had changed his mind and organised the "endowment for divestment," a \$10,000 fund to be held in escrow until Harvard sells its South African-related holdings.

Now a law student, Mr. Anderson said he was heartened by the new activism. Harvard students have occupied administrative offices and earlier this month tried to "imprison" Abe Hoopesenstein, South Africa's consul-general in New York, when he attended a private reception at a Harvard dormitory.

Mr. Hoopesenstein had to be rescued by campus police. "We've won a victory by making it safe to argue against apartheid," Mr. Anderson said. "The next four years are going to be just as hot as far as divestment is concerned."

Harvard is just one of dozens of campuses that have spawned protests. Among them are New York's Columbia University, the

University of Wisconsin and the University of Iowa.

Hundreds of students have been arrested at the Berkeley campus of the University of California, the scene of huge protests in the 1960s. Berkeley students have blocked university halls, boycotted classes, camped out on Sproul Plaza, invaded the president's office and voted to stop campus sales of products made by companies with South African connections.

Seymour Martin Lipset, a Stanford University sociologist and author of "Rebellion in the University," said the interest in apartheid could signal a new era of campus activism, "depending on what comes next."

Prof. Lipset also sees other familiar patterns to the recent demonstrations. The nation's healthy economy, he said, has reduced student apprehension about grades and jobs, freeing them to take a greater part in social issues.

And there is the traditional springtime restlessness.

"Spring is the end of the school year, a time when students blow off some steam," he said.

The new campus activists, however, deny the protests are just another spring fling. Many, like Mr. Price of Iowa, hope the protests will lead to greater participation against U.S. involvement in Central America, nuclear disarmament and draft registration.

"Once people get the experience like this, they see all sorts of possibilities," he said.

## Rare chance for peace

From Arab News, Jeddah

THE MIDDLE East situation is such that it could become the flashpoint for a global war. But, at the same time, as King Hussein pointed out in his latest speech on the subject, the current situation also presents an unprecedented opportunity for the solution of the crisis, a chance that "will never come again if we fail now."

The theme of the King's televised address to the National Association of Arab-Americans was return of territory for peace, a formula that has gained wide acceptance internationally, as well as within saner circles in Israel, as the only practicable means to secure an end to the state of conflict in the region. Israel, despite deeds to the contrary, has been insisting that all it is looking for is peace within secure frontiers. However, as most people recognise, it cannot have that security until it returns all the Arab territory it captured in June 1967, including East Jerusalem.

For the first time in these turbulent 18 years, there exists, in King Hussein's words, "an opportunity for the parties involved to reactivate the peace process based on the return of territory in exchange for peace. This opportunity should not be missed. It is an opportunity that I know will never come again..."

It is not that the Arab side is

seeking "concessions" without being willing to offer something in exchange. The King referred to the compromise to which the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has tacitly agreed in order to clear the path toward normalisation in the region. "an act of great courage on the part of the PLO, as King Hussein rightly called it. But if the PLO continued to be kept out of the peace process and pushed beyond forbearance by Israel's "creeping annexation of the West Bank", the only way left to the Palestinians and the Arabs would in the long run be armed struggle. On the other hand, for the present fragile political arrangement in Israel, there is not likely to be a long run. "Despite some positive and encouraging signs among responsible elements, there are those who insist that not a single inch of the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan should be returned. These include members of the Israeli cabinet who could assume power before long."

The Fez Declaration of 1982 and the Jordan-PLO agreement are an iron-clad Arab commitment to peace. What is needed now is for the other side to reciprocate this through concrete deeds: to recognise the national rights of the long-suffering Palestinian people and to exchange the usurped Arab lands for a peace that is really within its grasp.

## Another Nasser needed

From the Economist

WHATEVER HAPPENED to the Arab League? A visitor to Tunis, where the league is based, might reasonably wonder. The league's new headquarters, designed to replace the rather scruffy offices in Khartoum, Pacha Avenue, has still not been built on the splendid site donated by the Tunisian government, although \$30m was set aside for it three years ago. But the Arab League does not appear to be much concerned about appearances. It is worried more about its purpose.

In the heady political years of the 1950s and 1960s, the league was rarely out of Middle Eastern news, and had a vaguely conspiratorial, slightly revolutionary reputation. It was fiercely anti-colonial and anti-Israel. Independence and Arab unity were words the league used a lot. Egypt's President Nasser, although not one of the league's founders, was the guiding spirit.

Nasser is long dead. Egypt is still suspended from the league for making peace with Israel. The idea of Arab unity has been taken over, with little success, by the likes of Libya's Muammar Qadhafi. Defenders of the work of the league claim that it has at least put limits on inter-Arab fighting. The dispute between Morocco and the Polisario over Western Sahara would, they claim, have been bolder without the league's moderating hand. Given this, plus the work of the league's agencies that deal with such matters as economic cooperation and education, it is possible to argue that the Arab World benefits from the league's existence.

But the league's 22 members recognise that this is not enough. The organisation is so creaky that it has not been able to call a summit meeting over the past two years, and cannot take any serious decisions without one. Its most pressing need is to amend its charter, to replace consensus with some sort of majority decision. Such a revolutionary change would formally sink the idea that Arabs think and act with one single voice from Nouakchott to Muscat. The avowed goals of the league, Arab independence and

Arab unity, make good slogans.

But they can be contradictory. One proposed new fudge for recognising different aspirations while preserving the facade of unity is the setting up of a "confederation of sub-regional ensembles". The Gulf Cooperation Council might be the model. Eventually, in an ideal Arab World, all such groups would combine under the league's guiding hand into a "fertile crescent" stretching from the western tip of Africa to the end of the Arabian peninsula. It is all a bit fanciful, but that is the way the thinking in the league is going.

Back to Cairo?

Such thinking assumes that Egypt will eventually return to the league. When the league's headquarters were in Cairo, it sometimes gave the impression of being a branch of the Egyptian foreign office. If the present Tunisian secretary-general, Mr. Chadli Klibi, is perhaps a less imposing, and certainly less authoritarian, figure than his Egyptian predecessor, Mr. Mahmud Riad, he has managed to make the league into a more open institution. He has welcomed thinkers, among them Egyptian intellectuals, as they never were welcome in Cairo, where the league was very much the politicians' turf.

For material reasons Tunisia would not wish the league to move back to Cairo. With its staff of 600, the league is worth about \$500m of a year to Tunisia from employment, conferences and the like, and has encouraged investment.

Still, Egypt remains the geographical and demographic centre of the Arab World, and cannot be shunned for much longer, particularly as the principal instigator of its "disgrace", Iraq's Saddam Hussein, has ended his opposition. By next year Egypt may be back in the league. Some of its departments may then return to Cairo (where they may then begin operations by using the \$18m blocked by the Egyptians since 1979). Others, including probably the political department, would remain in Tunis, moving into the new headquarters building.



# Royal Shakespeare takes self-help course at 25

By Mary Ellen Bortin  
Reuter

LONDON — The Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC), hailed as one of the glories of world theatre, is making dramatic changes in its 25th anniversary season gets underway.

The award-winning company is threatened by sharp cutbacks in expected funding announced recently by Arts Minister Lord Gowrie, who warned it was his duty to "deliver a culture shock" to the arts in Britain.

But the RSC's directors have launched what they call an "aggressive self-help policy" to go head on with the cuts, despite a subsidy of under two per cent — far below inflation and much less than promised.

"It's going to be tough, but we'll do what we can," RSC joint artistic director Terry Hands told Reuters as the season opened in April. "We are battle-hardened veterans of survival."

Public funding has been a vital

part of the RSC's success since it took shape in 1960 as Britain's first permanent national repertory company. Steady subsidies allowed it to stage risky modern plays as well as Shakespeare and the classics.

A report on the RSC won more government funds last year and recommended real grant rises in the future. This year's tiny increase represents a large cut after inflation, however, and Mr. Hands says the RSC is "back in the land of the midnight crisis."

The new self-help policy includes plans to transfer three past hits to the lucrative West End theatre district, to take its much-lauded "Nicholas Nickleby" on tour in the United States, to stage a new musical and to move into television.

The money-making projects mark a distinct change of policy for the RSC, born as a bold experiment when Britain's Arts Council was just embarking on its theatre subsidy programme.

The company emerged from the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre of Stratford-upon-Avon, birthplace

of the immortal bard, as the dreamchild of Director Peter Hall.

The memorial had acquired considerable renown in Stratford since its shaky start in 1879, attracting some of the greatest names of the London stage for its short summer festival season.

Mr. Hall wanted to add a London theatre and make the company permanent by offering three-year contracts to actors. He felt investment of the troupe's meagre savings in the expansion could persuade the government to provide subsidies in the future.

In a Rocco Hotel room in Leningrad, where the memorial was performing on a triumphant Russian tour in 1958, the troupe's chairman, Sir Fordham Flower, listened to the plans and said Mr. Hall must be mad. But he agreed to take the gamble.

By 1960, the memorial had acquired the Aldwych Theatre in London and received its charter from Buckingham Palace to become the Royal Shakespeare Company. Within three years, it had received its first public funding.

"I don't believe such an extraordinary sequence of events could possibly occur today," Mr. Hall, now head of the London-based National Theatre (NT), said recently of the RSC's birth.

One of the most outspoken critics of this year's funding restraint, Mr. Hall — now Sir Peter — has had to close the NT's acclaimed Cottesloe Theatre, one of the company's three stages.

He has furiously accused the government of crucifying the four national subsidised companies — the RSC, the NT, the Royal Opera and the English National Opera — saying years of theatrical achievement are about to be dismantled.

Terry Hands and his partner Trevor Nunn, artistic director at the RSC since Mr. Hall's departure in 1968, are taking a cooler view of their own admittedly difficult situation.

"We have gone through years

before when we thought we were going to go under," said Mr. Hands. "Do we tear our hair or do we take steps to preserve our integrity?"

The company has been forced to cut one major Shakespeare production from its plans for this year's Stratford season.

But Mr. Hands said expected box-office winners like a musical version of Victor Hugo's "Les Misérables" would allow the RSC to stage an increased number of experimental, risk-taking projects.

The company's four stages, two in Stratford and two at the New Barbican Centre in London, play to audiences of more than one million every year. A large anonymous benefactor will enable the RSC to add a fifth theatre in Stratford next year.

As the company's 25th anniversary season began this month, tickets for its London run of "Ric-

hard III" were almost sold out and its unorthodox production of "The Merry Wives of Windsor", set in 1559, opened in Stratford to enthusiastic acclaim.

"An extravaganza closely related to Shakespeare's play of the same name," one critic quipped, while another called the period change "brilliantly innovative."

The setting harks back to the confident "New Elizabethan Age" of the RSC's founding, as though the company was thumbing its nose at the fund losses and facing hard times with a grin.

"I don't know what the future will be," Mr. Hands admits. "This company is in many ways unique. Every day that we continue to exist is a new discovery for us."

But he remains optimistic. "Theatres will always survive," he says. "Big institutions may collapse. But as for the theatre, there will always be some madman in the streets."

Randa Habib's  
Corner

## No directors-for-life

CHANGES OF government are normal events that all civilised countries experience. If with a change of government most ministers, if not all, are changed, this is also normal. But, usually, a change of government does not stop at that.

What happens is that after a certain period of time, other changes follow, on the level of administrative departments and key positions.

Some department directors are either pensioned or moved to other positions. Ambassadors are called back and others designated. These small reshuffles are common. What happens is that a new government tends to choose people it can work with. In some countries, when a political party wins the elections, members of that party are given key positions.

In Jordan, however, we do not have legalised political parties, but we have personalities to whom the King gives his trust to head the government. And these leaders choose their team for the best goals.

Change is good and we anticipate it patiently. Luckily, positions are not occupied by the same people forever. It would be terrible to have something like director-for-life.

But those who work conscientiously and with honesty — and those whose work is hard, sincere and productive — should be left where they are because they are rare jewels.

## Romen, the only professional gypsy theatre in the world

MOSCOW — Of the six million gypsies living throughout the world today, only 200,000 or so inhabit the Soviet Union have a professional theatre of their own.

In 1931, gypsy artists organised a troupe which they called "Romen" and which immediately won popularity among audiences eager to get acquainted with gypsy songs and dances. The most attractive thing about the group was that it presented gypsy art in original form minus the cabaret colouring that it had acquired at the turn of the century.

"Romen" has progressed from ethnographical reviews to big drama, from gypsy camp songs and dances to modern musical shows. Today, it is highly professional company which can hold its own among the other Moscow theatres. "Romen" gives shows every day and the hall, which seats 860, is always full. The company has also won renown abroad. For instance, when it toured Japan, it performed in a hall with 2,500 seats, for a month and a half and there was never an empty seat, while the rest did not stint its praise.

"Romen" stages shows that tell of the life of the gypsies, their past and their present. Today the "Romen" repertoire has 15 titles which include the classics, contemporary Soviet plays and plays by foreign authors. The playbill boasts the name of Leo Tolstoy, Alexander Kuprin, Nikolai Leskov, Prosper Mérimée, Victor Hugo and Federico Garcia Lorca. The theatre stages different genres. For instance, it has review

titled "We, the gypsies", a "production" play called "Nepoklonov", a folk comedy — "Four Suitors", a romantic ballad — "Fiery Steeds", a folk drama — "Asa, the gypsy girl", and the classical drama "The Living Corpse" after Leo Tolstoy.

Plays written by Ivan Rom-Lebedev, the well-known gypsy playwright, actor and guitar player and member of the Writers' Union of the USSR, occupy a significant place in the theatre's repertoire. His plays are actually a history of the theatre. Stars like Lyalya Chernaya, Ivan Khristalev and others launched on their brilliant artistic careers in plays written by Rom-Lebedev. To this day one of the theatre's most popular productions is "Fiery Steeds", which tells of the events of the revolution and the Civil War in Russia, of a time permeated with the romance of exploit and the struggle for a new way of life.

The review "We, the gypsies" is the theatre's "calling card." It was written by Rom-Lebedev in co-authorship with Nikolai Slichenko, the theatre's chief director. "In this production, which is something like a chronicle of the theatre, we want to speak of the people at large and not simply of individuals. That is why it is presented in the form of a folk festival," said Nikolai Slichenko, the director and star of the production.

The gypsy troupe has 76 members many of whom bear the titles of People's and Merited Artists of the Republic. In the first years of

the theatre's existence, most of the actors were amateurs while today practically all of them are graduates of theatrical or musical schools and colleges or are studying there. For instance, a special course for gypsy artists was opened at the Gnesiny State Musical and Pedagogical Institute in Moscow six years ago.

An artistic council, an elected body, decides all the important questions pertaining to the theatre's artistic creativity, just like in all the other Soviet theatres.

For instance, 34 years ago all the members of the Artistic Council unanimously voted to admit Nikolai Slichenko into the company. At that time Slichenko was 16 and had come to the capital from a village where he worked as a blacksmith and dreamed of a stage career. The council was won over by his beautiful voice and musical talent. Today, Slichenko is the artistic leader of "Romen" and bearer of the title of People's Artist of the USSR. He is known in other countries besides the Soviet Union. His performance was applauded by large audiences in Poland and Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, France and Japan. The Paris press called him "a gypsy out of a legend."

Alexander Kuprin, an outstanding Russian writer, wrote in 1911: "In another quarter of a century, no one will even remember the gypsy song." Romen has given the lie to this pessimistic forecast — Novosti Press Agency.

## Mifune bemoans loss of audience

By Elisabeth Rubinien  
Reuter

OKYO — Although he is Japan's best-known film star, Toshiro Mifune now finds he has to compromise his aesthetic ideals to keep his production company alive.

Mifune productions, which he started 22 years ago, has cut its annual staff from a high of 80 to 12. Last year it demolished its movie studios to build apartment buildings to sell in the face of hard times.

Audiences have shrunk to about one-tenth their size during the heyday of movies, Mifune told Reuters in an interview, and what he wants is sex and violence.

The 65-year-old actor reserves himself for good roles and will not perform in what he considers w-quality films designed primarily for uncritical teenagers.

"There's no need for him to sto himself," points out his right-hand man, Takashi Takada. But Mifune's company resorts to films containing light violence to draw in order to stay in the black.

As an actor, Mifune has stunned is in Japan and overseas for

over 30 years with his vivid portrayals of powerful warlords, noble peasants and disillusioned modern men.

His swagging rendition of the peasant-turned-Samurai in the 1954 Akira Kurosawa classic "The Seven Samurai" and his cynical bandit in Kurosawa's 1950 "Rashomon" established the ultimate screen standard of spirit and honour.

As recently as last year, a public opinion survey concluded that Mifune was the closest to the ideal of a Japanese man, the one whose face expressed the best of Japanese pride, power and virility.

But as an individual and not a performer, Mifune is modest, an actor not a theoretician, inclined to story telling rather than espousing opinions.

Seated on a couch in his simple office at Mifune productions, he holds his back ramrod straight, like a fully armed Samurai.

His hands flutter busily over the papers and objects on his coffee-table. He quit smoking one night two months ago, he says.

He speaks in a gravelly voice, punching out comments like sharp dialogue.

"I've made movies since I was 27," he says. "I don't know any other kind of business so I think I'd like to keep on making movies."

"Kids are the ones who watch movies today and they say, 'Papa, come along,' so you have to make films that will please them," he says.

Mifune Production's upcoming teenager-pleasing summer release ironically follows a plot line based on "The Seven Samurai", a new rendition of downtrodden good guys who conquer their oppressors with the help of a team of experts, in this case seven women.

It cost the joint producers, Shochiku Studios and Mifune Productions, 400 million yen (\$1.8 million) to make.

"Even with an expensive movie, you can't be sure of a big draw," says Takada. "So, even if Mifune says, 'I'd never be in a film like that myself,' he figures you have to make films that viewers will think they want to see."

Bemoaning the present state of movie-making, Mifune says: "The problem is it no longer costs 10-to-20 million yen to make a film — it runs from hundreds of millions to thousands of millions."

## Space invaders hit Swedish television

Sweden's worthy television service is suffering stiff competition from satellite broadcasts. David Brown reports that Swedish programmers are being forced to emphasise entertainment rather than education to keep their audience.

STOCKHOLM — The founders of Swedish TV had a vision for its future. Above all, it would be unadorned by commercialism. The programming would be edifying, educational and entertaining, in that order.

The system worked well enough for several decades, until satellite and cable transmissions expanded across national boundaries.

Now, one of Europe's last bastions against TV advertising is threatening to crumble, and the programming gurus in Stockholm are being forced to lay much more emphasis on the "entertainment" end of their equation to keep their ratings up.

"The swift developments of TV satellites and cable may compel us to change our position on the question of advertising," said Mr. Ingvar Carlsson, deputy prime minister who is also so-called "minister of the future".

This would mark a major ideological departure for Sweden's Social Democratic administration.

As recently as last autumn, its party congress again went on record against commercial broadcasting. But the government will have to respond to changes already under way if it wants to prevent a continued erosion of viewers.

One recently-released study on Gothenburg shows that viewing of Swedish TV has plunged by nearly 50 per cent among the young and well-educated (hence, multilingual) since the introduction of international satellite TV.

Cable penetration, although small in comparison with such more densely populated countries as Belgium (54 per cent) and Switzerland (47 per cent), is behind this reevaluation. At present, some 75,000 (five per cent) of Swedish households, mainly of apartment dwellers in the big cities, are connected to such networks.

works.

But the Televerket (the public telecommunications agency which controls two thirds or more of the country's cable installations) expects to lay 250,000 more lines this year, and several million by the end of the decade. While the actual expansion of Sweden's cable system depends on several political decisions, its existence has forced the pace of the debate.

In virtually a single year, sky Channel and Music Box of the U.K. and TV5 of France have given Swedish viewers their first taste of commercial programming.

Moreover, Esselte/Video Net is expected to come on line soon with subtitled broadcasts which will further expand the potential market, especially among older and less-educated viewers who have a limited knowledge of foreign languages.

That the audience likes what it sees is evident from the concern among national network executives. To meet the challenge, they have proposed a third channel financed by subscription

rather than by advertising to supplement the two existing "public service" stations.

The public stations will clearly need a major source of new revenue — in addition to their licence fees — to draw the audiences back with the more expensive programming offered by the commercial competition.

"We stand the risk of being overrun by the international companies if we don't start our own pay TV tests quickly," warns Mr. Kjell Kullberg of Swedish Television.

Should the government approve a third subscription-financed television channel, this might solve one financing problem. But it will not make the politically difficult advertising issue go away as long as foreign-produced commercial television, with advertising, floods in through the cable networks.

In legislation to be introduced shortly to regulate cable expansion, the government is expected to prohibit advertising produced specially for the Swedish

market. But that which appears in the course of normal international programming would be tolerated.

Mr. Lars Nabseth, the Industry Association president condemns the legislation for putting Swedish-produced goods at a disadvantage in their own market. "Our companies should be allowed to compete on the same terms as those from abroad," he says.

"It is ridiculous to allow Ford to advertise its cars on cable, but not Volvo," says another. Moreover, the non-Socialist opposition parties have become increasingly strident in their calls for deregulation and, as this autumn's hotly-contested general election nears, there is evidence their position has broad popular support.

In response, the government has promised to appoint a commissioner to look into the potential impact of not allowing TV advertising. That the report is due after the election is not considered a coincidence — Financial Times news feature.

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# Argentina scores 1st win in '85, beats Chile 2-0

**BUENOS AIRES (R) —** Argentina beat Chile 2-0 Tuesday night to grab their first soccer victory of the year and go into their World Cup qualifying matches on a winning note.

Diego Maradona shook off jet lag from commuting between matches for Napoli in Italy and the national team in Buenos Aires to put Argentina on the road to victory with a 31st-minute goal from a centre by Lanky striker Ricardo Gareca.

Midfielder Jorge Burruchaga added the second in the 67th minute after latching on to a neat pass from the Napoli star.

Argentina, denied at least four more goals when shots by Maradona, Gareca, Ricardo Giusti and Pedro Pasculli rebounded off the posts, were clearly superior.

But the under-strength Chilean side might have gained a better result if captain Aravena had not shot a 59th minute penalty wide. In a vote of no confidence for coach Carlos Bilardo, only 18,000 fans turned up at the 70,000-capacity River Plate Stadium. They voiced their disapproval for what they saw as a poor team performance in Argentina's last warm-up before World Cup qualifying matches against Peru, Venezuela and Colombia.

It was Argentina's first victory following two defeats and a draw. Maradona said after the match he

was confident they would qualify for the World Cup finals in Mexico next year.

"We have improved," he said. "We're gradually finding our best form and could have won by more goals."

Chilean coach Pedro Morales was less optimistic about Argentina's chances.

"Peru will win the group. Argentina depend too much on Maradona and Daniel Passarella," he said. Passarella, Argentina's veteran World Cup defender, was also recalled from the Italian League to help strengthen the team.

Chile, who were eliminated by World Cup qualifiers Uruguay, have a second chance to reach the finals in playoffs.

## Maradona on the shuttle

**BUENOS AIRES (R) —** Soccer commuter Diego Maradona returned here Monday to play in Argentina's World Cup warm-up match against Chile Tuesday.

Maradona has shuffled between Italy and Argentina in the last week to help his national side's World Cup preparation because the Italian Soccer Federation will not give him permission to miss Napoli's final games of the season.

He played in Argentina's 1-1 draw with Paraguay last Thursday, returned to Italy the next day and scored twice in his club's 2-2 draw with Udinese Sunday.

He is scheduled to return to Italy on Wednesday to play in Napoli's last league game next weekend before rejoining the national team for their final preparation for the South American group one qualifying matches against Venezuela, Colombia and Peru.

## U.S. basketball team to play in Jordan and Bahrain

By Frank Halpin  
USIA Staff Writer

**CLEVELAND, Ohio —** Jordan and Bahrain are about to play hosts to 15 very eager and enthusiastic Americans — a basketball contingent from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.

The American team, called the "Spartans," will play a series of exhibition games with Jordanian and Bahraini squads during a two-week visit May 20 to June 4.

Few of the Americans have ever been abroad.

"I've never been out of the country, other than Canada, and I know none of my players has been in the Middle East before," said coach Bill Sudeck. "In fact, a couple of the players never have been on an airplane, as funny as that may seem. So this is going to be a great experience for us all. We're actually pretty excited about going over there."

Joe Kerner, a junior, said: "It's the chance of a lifetime. It'll never happen again."

The Case Western Reserve University group will include 12 players, trainer Dennis Bash and serving as assistant coach, Peter Musselman, the university's vice president and treasurer, who is in charge of the institution's athletic programme.

Mr. Musselman, who expressed a keen interest in Islamic culture, is the only member of the group who has visited the Middle East, having been to Egypt and Morocco a number of times on personal trips.

The Spartans expect to play two games at King Hussein Sports City and one game at Yarmouk University in Irbid. Then they go to Manama for several matches at Juffair Sports Hall.

The tour is sponsored by the U.S. Information Agency in cooperation with the basketball federations of Jordan and Bahrain.

The agency's office in Amman had requested a visit by an American university team, and it was arranged through the agency's Sports American office with the assistance of Robert "Rip" Taylor, Mr. Taylor, who has trained with Jordan's national team for the past two years, was assistant coach to Bill Sudeck in Cleveland 1980-82. Jordan's junior basketball squad trained at Case last year while the national team was playing in the Olympics in Los Angeles.

Case Western Reserve University is regarded as one of America's leading independent universities. Through its two undergraduate colleges, school of graduate studies, and seven professional schools, the university offers education in 60 fields.

## Mecir has all makings of a great player

By Paul Radford  
Reuter

**HAMBURG, West Germany —** He's shy, he looks frail, his hair is a tousled mess and his beard is like wire wool. Yet there is no mistaking that Miloslav Mecir has all it takes to become a truly great tennis player.

Anyone who can make monkeys out of three of Sweden's best players on successive days on the clay courts they favour, as the Czechoslovak did to win the West German Open, has to be special.

Top seed and world number four Mats Wilander, who stumbled to a 6-1, 6-2 semifinal defeat, his heaviest ever on clay, said ruefully afterwards: "I was just a spectator out there today. I have never been so outplayed in my life. I was pulverised."

Mecir had bounced Joakim Nystrom out of the previous round 6-2, 6-2 and went on to claim a hat-trick of Swedes in the final with a devastating 6-4, 6-1, 6-4 triumph over Henrik Sundstrom.

At one stage in the final, Mecir won 14 out of 15 games as a bewildered Sundstrom tried in vain to find a way to stop the 20-year-old

Czechoslovak's constant stream of winners.

The Swede's one consolation was that he was the only one of Mecir's six opponents in Hamburg to take as many as four games in a set, even if he owed that largely to an attack of nerves by the eventual champion.

Sundstrom remarked later: "If you don't play your best shots against him, you have no chance."

Wilander admitted he had no idea how to play the fast rising star. "He moves better than just about anybody. He always seems to be where the ball is and he's got a very long reach too."

"You can't tell what he's going to do with the ball on either forehand or backhand."

Mecir is a pure delight to watch. Even on clay he is always looking for winners — passing strokes played with ferocious power, delicate drop shots, superbly executed kills at the net.

Foreign journalists who had come to Hamburg to chronicle the continued achievements of Swedish tennis were left shaking their heads in dismay as Mecir swept aside the Swedes without seeming to break sweat.

One seasoned tennis observer commented: "Mecir is amazing. He's going to be a danger to any player on any surface."

The tall (1.91 metres) Czechoslovak is a resourceful touch player who seems to play in slow motion because his uncanny anticipation and long strides get him into position so early.

He frequently exploits this by watching for his opponent to move before calmly placing the ball down the opposite line.

His huge reach makes him almost unpassable at the net and he has a devastatingly accurate lob if his opponent should venture too far forwards.

If he has any weakness, it may be that his service is not exceptional and that he does appear to be prone to nerves when victory is within his grasp.

Against Sundstrom he led 4-0 in the third set before dropping four games in a row and Wilander pulled back two games from 5-0 down in their last set.

Mecir, a man of few words who handles questions with a shy smile, offers growing self-confidence as the reason for his sudden success.

His win over Jimmy Connors to reach the U.S. Professional Indoor final in Philadelphia last January was a key factor, he says. "That was very important to me. Now when I play someone and begin to feel I can win, my game gets much stronger."

Until Philadelphia, where he lost to John McEnroe in the final,

Mecir had made solid but unimpressive advances in the world rankings. From 215 at the end of 1982, he rose to 101 the next year and 60 last December.

A string of good results, including his first Grand Prix victory at Rotterdam in March, has seen him advance into the top 25 and he looks certain to be in the top 10 before too long.

The manner of his Hamburg performances suggests it is not too fanciful to see in Mecir a player who can aspire to rank alongside the 'big three' of McEnroe, Connors and Mecir's compatriot Ivan Lendl.

Son of an amateur tennis enthusiast, Mecir comes from the Prievizke, near Bratislava. His coach, Njir Mihal, stays home while his prodigy roams the world and that suits Mecir fine.

"I don't want someone travelling with me. My friends on the circuit are enough," he said.

Mecir is 21 on May 19 but he has already come of age in tennis terms, and his extremely powerful double-fisted backhands are going to frighten the world's best for some time to come.

He shyly confessed he did not really enjoy the close attention his sudden successes have given him.

And he looked positively embarrassed at the audacity of his own reply when asked whether he played any musical instruments. "No, just the tennis racket," he blushed.

## New Soviet stars emerge at Helsinki

**MOSCOW (R) —** The Soviet Union, who gave the world three of the most talented gymnasts of all time in Olga Korbut, Ludmilla Turischeva and Nellie Kim, unveiled two new and potentially great stars at the weekend.

Yelena Shushunova and Oksana Omelyanchik dominated the European Women's Gymnastics Championships in Helsinki and left the event with a stack of medals between them. The two 15-year-olds also left the competition having earned the respect of their more experienced rivals.

Shushunova grabbed the spotlight when she won the overall individual crown on Saturday in her first appearance in the championships. In doing so she collected the first 10 awarded in a major championship under the new six-judge system and broke Romanian Nadia Comaneci's European points record set in 1979.

Shushunova also collected three individual golds out of a possible four while Omelyanchik, the Soviet champion, was not far behind taking third place overall and tak-

ing gold on the beam with compelling style and to rapturous applause in the Yabali Hall.

Shushunova took the silver behind her compatriot on the beam.

Both girls have emerged this year to form the backbone of the traditionally strong Soviet squad. Their swift rise to fame testifies to the rigorous process of selection and training which produced Korbut, darling of the 1972 Olympics, and more recently Natalya Yurchenko, the current overall world champion.

But it also shows Soviet trainers are prepared to experiment.

Coach Viktor Gavrilchenko has pushed Shushunova to new limits in the seven years he has trained her and many believe that she now possesses the world's most daring and complex routines.

A schoolgirl from Leningrad, Shushunova was only a toddler when Korbut gave gymnastics a new look at the Munich Olympics. Shushunova entered the sport in 1976, the year Comaneci reigned supreme at the Montreal games, and has always seemed destined to join the ranks of the greats.

## THE Daily Crossword by C.F. Murray

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Overcharge	1 Certain rage
6 Confused	2 Prologue
10 Police group	3 Child before a
14 More robust	4 Efficacy
15 Church section	5 Gain
16 Sway	6 Hermit
17 Blood vessel	
18 Family group	
19 Bard's river	
20 Act recklessly	
22 Homely abbr.	
24 — Jms	
25 Audience	
26 Follower of	
27 Grief	
28 Alekhan island	
29 Car for	
30 Rips or flows	
32 Act recklessly	
33 One's school	
34 NY canal	
35 Camera feature	
36 Ark landing	
37 Sailing	
38 Modern parl.	
39 Outwit	
40 Tank need	
41 Act recklessly	
42 Declare	
43 positively	
44 "I met"	
45 Maine college	
46 City on the	
47 Word in an	
48 Eric Gardner	
49 title	
50 Poe's bird	
51 Alan or Cheryl	
52 Looked over	
53 Tractor man	
54 Lacerate	
55 So long in	
56 See 42 A	
57 Neither's	
58 partner	
59 Added backroom	
60 Tehran citizens	
61 Spartan slave	
62 Card holding	
63 Shoe	
64 In the merry	
65 month —	
66 Tree group	
67 Ed of TV firms	
68 Let up	
69 Dies —	

Yesterday's Puzzle Solvers:

CHARP	BOLDS	SOME
UNRAU	ETIAPPE	TRUPE
BARBARA	AMAMONELL	
ETIE	DIABE	CLASIS
CITY	STAB	
DEBATE	AMMIEVER	
UPON	BYEAM	QUE
MARGARET	WHITTING	
ACE	SOBAS	ULIO
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U.S. citizens and permanent residents who lived and worked overseas in 1982 and 1983 and have yet to file their 1982 or 1983 individual income tax returns may face a substantial loss of tax benefits if they do not file their returns by July 23, 1985. After that date late filers will not be entitled to claim the benefits of the foreign earned income exclusion.

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Contact the Consular Section of the United States Embassy for additional information.

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## CONVOY

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## THE COPE

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Performances: 12-3-7

## Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

## TROUBLEMAKER (Colour)

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8



## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.2595/2605	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3740/47	Canadian dollars
	3.0830/50	West German marks
	3.4815/45	Dutch guilders
	2.5930/60	Swiss francs
	62.03/08	Belgian francs
	9.4000/4200	French francs
	1962.0/5.0	Italian lire
	250.75/85	Japanese yen
	8.9100/9250	Swedish crowns
	8.8700/8850	Norwegian crowns
	11.0850/1000	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	322.40/322.90	U.S. dollars

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Stocks closed firm after a quiet session's trading helped by a batch of favourable company results, dealers said. At 1400 GMT the F.T. 30 index rose 7.2 points to 1019.5 and the FTSE 100 share rose 14.5 points to a record high of 1341.0.

Grand Metropolitan was 10p higher at 238 after a high of 245 following its first quarter results. Commercial Union closed at 231, up a net 5p following its first quarter figures.

Government bonds were as much as 1/2 point easier in longer dated paper, responding to slightly easier sterling, but trading was dull. Gold shares were generally lower.

Associated Dairies, up 4p to 158, said it placed 26 million shares on the market at 147-1/2p each, as part of a £600 million agreed bid for MFL, which rose 10p to 296. Debenhams closed 2p lower at 305 after 295, following the statement by Burton group that it will not make a bid for Debenhams.

BTR was 18p firmer at 757 after 761, following news that its recently acquired subsidiary, Dunlop Holdings, had sold its U.S. tyre operations for £118 million plus loan repayments.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

## FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A good day to start putting into motion new plans or courses of action that appeal to you, and the more up-to-date they are in nature the better.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Early get some new course started that is inspiring in some new direction not tried before.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Confer with experts confidentially and gain the information you require. Then make plans that are important.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Contact those you have met recently and turn them into valuable friends. Entertain them charmingly.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) A good day to get into more modern methods of operating so that you become more successful in your career.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You are inspired how to gain greater knowledge and development and should waste no time in carrying through with your ideas.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Find the right system under which to operate so that your business will fare much better. Gain valuable suggestions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Listen carefully to the suggestions which a clever associate gives you and utilize them to your advantage.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Use a new system that can make your work easier yet productive of greater benefits. A co-worker could give you a fine idea.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Plan the entertainment with congeniality early so that all will go well. Then get busy handling practical affairs efficiently.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Doing something now that will bring in greater security is wise, so figure out how this can be accomplished.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Become more cognizant of modern ways to operate and you can produce far more in daily routines.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Try to see experts you know and they will give you invaluable information you need. Get your possessions improved.

## FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning is fine for winding up the policies and ideas under which you would like to operate in the days ahead, so get into and settle them.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get that plan well rounded out in the morning, and later you can make the right monetary arrangements.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Do further research work on how to add to your present abundance, and after lunch get into the work awaiting your attention.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Devoted pals tell you how you can gain your cherished wishes, so follow through and they are yours with little effort.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) If you confer with a bigwig you know, you can make your talents work more profitably. Get to work with a vengeance.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Study all angles connected with your desire to become more successful, and then confer with an expert for best results.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Think deeply and come to quick decisions concerning how you can be more wealthy in the future.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Come to a real understanding with an associate in the morning so that you can later get into the actual work required of you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You know how to get better results at whatever work you are engaged in, so plan to do just that in a positive way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have fine creative ideas and can put them in operation by evening. Early plan the pleasure you want to have.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Try to make your home more charming and have more harmony there with kin. Evening is fine for inviting in guests.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Put those ideas to work that will improve your daily routines and give you a greater income.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Use more modern methods and ideas if you want to be successful in the days ahead. Let practical affairs be first on your agenda.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY...he or she will be very much interested in Jet Age projects and should have as fine an education as possible. Make sure that good manners are taught early in life and that fine books are around for perusal. One who will need religious training early and the benefit of sports.

## USSR considers pay rises, increases in aid

MOSCOW (R) — The ruling Soviet politburo discussed pay rises for specialist research workers to improve efficiency and productivity, TASS news agency reported.

The politburo also considered wage rises for next year for scientific workers, designers and production engineers.

The move followed calls by Communist Party chief Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev for technological and scientific progress to boost the country's flagging economy.

A plan to increase state aid for families, pensioners, invalids and single mothers was also discussed.

The minimum pension for collective farmworkers and industrial and office workers, currently 60 roubles (\$70) a month, would be increased from November, TASS did not say how much the increase would be.

The agency said health care and housing for the elderly and the disabled would also be improved.

Meanwhile, Soviet officials, who are expected to announce measures soon to curb the consumption of alcohol, have urged industry to produce far more bottles of soft drinks and mineral water, a newspaper reported Tuesday.

The agricultural daily Selskaya Zhizn (Rural Life) said members of the government's agriculture commission ordered factories to increase supplies of harmless beverages.

'Sober wedding. Possible'

Sovietskaya Kultura (Soviet Culture) reported a Moscow wedding where only spring water was served under the headline "Sober wedding. Possible? It seems, yes".

People in the Soviet Union expect an announcement this week on strict new measures, perhaps including price rises and rationing, to curb growing alcoholism.

The Communist Party's ruling politburo discussed the problem last month and called for urgent changes. Since then, the number of media references to drinking and the virtues of sobriety has increased markedly.

Maryland orders limits to avert financial crisis

ANNAPOLIS, Maryland (R) — The state of Maryland said it is restricting depositor withdrawals from its privately-insured savings institutions in a bid to avert a banking crisis that could undermine world money markets.

Maryland Governor Harry Hughes said Tuesday he was ordering a \$1,000 a month limit on withdrawals to prevent massive withdrawals that have already forced the state to take control of two of the privately-insured institutions.

State and federal regulators are hoping to avoid a replay of a March crisis when a massive withdrawal of funds after the failure of one Ohio savings institution forced the temporary closure of 70 others, causing the dollar to drop sharply on foreign exchange markets.

Mr. Hughes also told a news conference he was calling an emergency session of the state legislature to weigh measures he said would protect depositors and ensure the stability of the savings institutions.

So far, the difficulties have touched only those institutions that are insured by a private state fund. Commercial banks, whose deposits are backed by the federal government, are not affected by the withdrawal limit.

The withdrawal limit is designed to prevent nervous depositors from endangering fundamentally sound institutions by mass withdrawals that exhaust cash on hand.

Earlier, Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker promised Mr. Hughes the central bank would lead the Maryland institutions enough funds to meet depositors' demands, but Mr. Hughes apparently decided that was not enough to relieve anxieties.

The problems began last week when reports of mismanagement caused huge withdrawals from Baltimore-based Old Court Savings and Loan, the state's second largest privately-insured thrift.

The state took control of Old Court on Sunday and limited withdrawals to \$1,000 per month.

Merritt Commercial Savings and Loan of Baltimore was placed under state control on Monday following a run on its deposits and a similar withdrawal limit was imposed.

Mr. Hughes said he would ask the legislature to require Maryland savings institutions to obtain federal deposit insurance.

Maryland is one of just four states that allow thrifts to operate without federal backing. Ohio ordered its savings institutions to obtain federal insurance after the March crisis threatened to bankrupt its private insurance fund.

Olivetti, Toshiba alliance seen as global strategy

MILAN, Italy (R) — A linkup in Japan between Olivetti, Italy's leading office automation group, and Toshiba, a major Japanese electronics firm, was seen Tuesday as a bold step towards Olivetti's goal of a worldwide market presence. The deal, announced Tuesday in Tokyo, was also viewed by some analysts as a prelude to a "strategic alliance" between the two firms and U.S. telecommunications giant American Telephone and Telegraph (ATT) which holds 25 per cent of Olivetti. Under the deal, Toshiba will acquire a 20 per cent stake in Olivetti's Japanese subsidiary, with annual sales of around \$80 million, and supply office automation equipment to Olivetti.

Peanuts

LET'S HAVE A GRUDGE MATCH.

AT WHAT?

I DON'T CARE... ANYTHING...

I JUST LIKE GRUDGE MATCHES.

Mutt 'n' Jeff

BOSS, I NEED A REST. CAN I HAVE A WEEK'S VACATION AND GO TO BERMUDA?

WELL, YOU HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD, JEFF! OKAY!

BUT FIRST BEFORE YOU GO, CHECK IT OUT WITH MY PRIVATE SECRETARY!

OH, I WILL, BOSS. I WILL.

I'LL CHECK IT OUT WITH HER WHEN SHE MEETS ME AT THE BERMUDA AIRPORT!

Andy Capp

WHAT GETS INTO YOU?!

SHE'S JUST A SWEET, TACTFUL WIFE, WHO TRIES TO MAKE SURE THAT HER HUSBAND CAN'T AFFORD TO GAD ABOUT

## Bonn affirms stance on farm prices

BONN (R) — West Germany Wednesday appeared to dash prospects of an early end to a European Community (EC) row over new farm support prices only hours before agriculture ministers were due to resume negotiations in Brussels.

Bonn government spokesman Mr. Juergen Sudhoff told a news conference that West Germany continued to reject price proposals made so far, which focus on cutting grain prices in a bid to stem vast overproduction by the 10-nation bloc.

"The proposals made so far are not acceptable to Bonn," he said.

Mr. Sudhoff's remarks followed a cabinet meeting at which ministers restated support for Agriculture Minister Ignaz Kiechle's tough negotiating position.

They seemed to end the breakthrough prospects raised earlier Wednesday by his British counterpart, Mr. Michael Jopling.

Mr. Jopling said in Brussels that Mr. Kiechle had appeared to accept for the first time that there would have to be cuts in the cereals sector.

Mr. Kiechle had so far refused to allow any reduction and threatened to veto such a move if it came to a vote.

The Brussels talks were due to resume later Wednesday when Mr. Kiechle returned from Bonn.

However, Mr. Sudhoff's statement appeared to conflict with information from sources in the ruling conservative parties' parliamentary group indicating a softening of Bonn's line.

The sources said Mr. Kiechle told the group after the cabinet meeting that he was prepared to accept a 1.6 per cent cut in cereals prices providing payment for produce sold into the Community's intervention stocks was speeded up to 30 days instead of the 120 days it can take presently.

Speeding payment would have the effect of increasing prices to farmers by around two per cent and so would in practice cancel out a 1.6 per cent reduction in official support prices, the sources said.

The 1.6 per cent reduction this year is part of a compromise plan worked out by Italian Agriculture Minister Filippo Pandolfi, whose country currently holds the Community's presidency.

The plan would spread over three years a 3.6 per cent cut proposed by the Community's executive commission.

Mr. Sudhoff said a reduction in cereals prices could have a decisively negative effect on the incomes of German farmers.

"The government cannot and will not take this risk," he said.

Swedish firms fear serious problems

STOCKHOLM (R) — Swedish companies warned Wednesday that they would face serious problems if a 13-day-old civil service pay dispute which has reduced the country's foreign trade to a trickle is not settled soon.

Many also expressed alarm at a government austerity package unveiled on Monday which sharply increased the cost of borrowing money and doubled the sales tax on new cars.

Some 70,000 public sector workers are not at work because of a strike and retaliatory lockout by employers which has halted air traffic and close customs offices at all but a few ports.

The government has rejected strikers' demands for an extra 3.1 per cent 1985 pay rise on top of a five per cent increase already agreed, saying it would jeopardise its anti-inflation strategy.

Talks between the two sides broke down last weekend.

Industry's hopes that the customs strike might be declared a danger to society, thereby applying considerable moral pressure on customs workers to return to work, were dashed Wednesday when an arbitration board failed to agree on how serious it was.

Carmaker Volvo, Scandinavia's largest industrial group, said it had been able to maintain production and exports but imports of key components were becoming increasingly unpredictable.

"We hope to keep operating normally but it's going to get very tough if the strike continues," spokesman Per Lofquist told Reuters. "This is giving a lot of people grey hair."

The National Railways Board said there was a backlog of more than 2,000 wagons waiting to be shipped through the southern ports of Trelleborg and Malmö.

"The railways risk becoming a storage depot instead of being able to transport goods," spokesman Bjorn Hallden said.

Companies in the key pulp and paper industry reported serious storage problems as stocks piled up at their plants, while the domestic airline Linjeflyg said it faced bankruptcy within three months unless air traffic resumed.

Small and medium-sized firms protested that government measures to boost interest rates, limit credit facilities and curb consumer spending imposed an additional

burden on them.

An association representing 1,800 such companies said their domestic sales would be hard hit and they would be forced to curtail investment and raise their export prices.

Opposition sees victory

Meanwhile, Sweden's opposition was Tuesday scenting victory in the autumn general election after strong pressure on the crown forced Prime Minister Olof Palme to impose tough austerity measures only four months before the polls.

Mr. Palme has always counted on his handling of the economy as his greatest campaign asset, but the Social Democratic government's financial decision drew widespread criticism Tuesday.

"In the camp of the bourgeois parties, there must be jubilation today — with many already sure of victory on Sept. 15 (polling day)," Sweden's largest Social Democratic morning newspaper, Arbetet, said in its editorial.

Stating that a two per cent rise in the discount rate was aimed at ending speculation about a new

devaluation, Arbetet predicted: "In the short-term, the measure are likely to cause the Social Democrats' election campaign major problems."

The Stockholm conservative, daily Svenska Dagbladet strongly criticised the government's handling of the economy in its editorial Tuesday, saying Mr. Palme's campaign boast that "Sweden is on the right way" was now clearly an empty one.

"If Sweden were on the right way, we would not have a currency crisis, inflation would not be considerably higher than in other Western countries, the current account would be balanced and unemployment would be much lower," it said.

Finance Minister Kjell-Olof Feldt earlier insisted the package did not represent a change of course on economic policy and said 1985 could still be a good year for Sweden's economy.

But conservative leader Mr. Ulf Adelsohn — the opposition's premier-designate if Mr. Palme loses in September — said it was obvious the government had acted in a blind panic.

Differences emerge between IMF, Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's central bank governor Mr. Yavuz Canevi said Wednesday talks with the International Monetary Fund on a new standby agreement had been suspended until August or September because of uncertainty over the country's 1985 economic performance.

The suspension of the talks, which opened three weeks ago, was announced Tuesday. Differences over the likely effect on the budget of value-added tax, introduced at the start of the year, and of other planned measures, made it impossible to agree on economic targets, Mr. Canevi told Reuters in an interview.

"It is really not very useful to sit down and agree on certain concrete limits — money supply limits, budget deficit limits, current account deficit limits — because we may have to change them in one month's time... neither side really was confident enough to even spell out one figure," he said.

The government said Tuesday it was too early to assess the country's economic performance to make policy judgments.

The two sides are discussing a standby agreement for about 150 million Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) to replace one for 225 million SDRs which expired in April.

The SDR is currently roughly equal in value to the dollar.

Mr. Canevi said it had been agreed Turkey's balance of payments made it unnecessary to draw from the fund "unless something drastic happens."

He said among the factors discussed was restricting the 1985 budget deficit to 200 billion liras (\$385 million) from an originally-proposed 500 billion liras (\$962 million), which Mr. Canevi said had been reduced by the government to 400 billion liras (\$770 million).

Provisional 1984 figures show a budget deficit of 917 billion liras (\$1.76 billion) and a net public sector borrowing requirement of 1,178 billion liras (\$2.27 billion).

The government aims to bring down inflation, currently around 50 per cent annually, and Mr. Canevi said he would be happy

with 35-40 per cent at the end of the year.

Measures were being considered to counter an expected rise in liquidity in the summer and its resultant inflation risks, arising from farmers' payments in a good harvest year, tourist receipts and higher remittances from Turkish workers abroad.

These could include restricting treasury spending in non-farm areas and sale of treasury bonds, Mr. Canevi said.

He said there was a tendency among the population away from savings toward the purchase of consumer goods.

A change in interest rates was under consideration to pay the highest rate for six or 12 month savings rather than for short-term savings as at present.

Mr. Canevi said Turkey planned to permit offshore banking within the framework of free trade zones to be established under a bill before parliament which he expected to be passed in the next month or so.

Israeli inflation surges

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Central Bureau of Statistics announced Wednesday that inflation in April was 19.4 per cent, the highest monthly figure since November when wage and price controls were introduced. The increase in the cost of living index was nearly as high as in April 1984 when there were no wage and price restraints and prices rose an average 20.6 per cent. The inflation in April far exceeded predictions published in Israeli newspapers, which had forecast an increase of about 12 per cent. Last November, inflation stood at 19.5 per cent. Wage and price restraints took effect Nov. 5 but were eased in February to allow some measured increases. The government has sought to reduce inflation, which last year totalled 44.5 per cent, to 200 per cent this year.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

"And now, with a rebuttal to this week's grocery list, is Mr. Stanley Parker!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DUEG

HUTEC

INVOIL

TOPITE

Answer: DUEG HIS HUTEC HIS INVOIL HIS TOPITE HIS

Yesterday's Jumbles: INKED GUARD FERVOR MURMUR

Answer: This is a stern necessity on a boat — A RUDDER



## Indian, Pakistani troops clash on Kashmir border

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Shooting has broken out between Indian and Pakistani troops on their disputed northern border, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported Wednesday.

It said firing was still going on intermittently Wednesday morning, six hours after the clash broke out in Kathua district of the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir.

There were no immediate reports of casualties.

"Trouble erupted Tuesday night when the Pakistanis started digging up defences on the no man's land which was objected to by the Indian security forces," PTI said.

Trouble frequently breaks out on the northern border in the former Himalayan state of Kashmir which is one third controlled by Pakistan and the rest by India.

Two of the three wars fought between India and Pakistan since independence from Britain in 1947 have broken out in the region.

The firing coincides with elections Wednesday in the Pakistan part of Kashmir, which is known as Azad Kashmir, and at a time of tension between the two countries over the activities of Sikh extremists in India.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said earlier this week that the extremists, who killed 86 people over the weekend in a bombing campaign, had foreign links. Several Indian newspapers have reported extremists are trained in Pakistan and slip back to India to

carry out guerrilla attacks.

Both countries have many troops deployed along the northern border and a United Nations observer group is stationed in the region to monitor clashes.

The Indian Home Secretary Ram D. Pradhan said Tuesday that foreign forces have been helping some terrorists in his country, but he refused to elaborate.

"We have found certain weapons with foreign markings. There is also some evidence that some of the terrorists whom we have apprehended had been trained from across ... outside the country," Mr. Pradhan said in an interview broadcast on British Television.

"There are some elements outside, terrorists: Who are interested in working against the interests and I think there is obviously a foreign hand," he said.

Some Western press reports have said the Indian government believes its neighbour Pakistan, with whom India briefly went to war in 1971, is behind the violence.

But Mr. Pradhan said: "I think that it would not be correct to name any country. Nobody has named a country. But there is enough evidence that there are some foreign forces who are also helping and assisting some of the terrorists, not all."

Meanwhile President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq said Tuesday Pakistan was not involved in any way in a Sikh extremist bomb campaign in neighbouring India.

But he told reporters in the Punjab town of Multan he would not comment on a statement by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi that there was a foreign link without examining the text.

Mr. Gandhi told parliament Monday in New Delhi: "There is involvement (of a foreign hand). You know it, we know it."

The official AFP news agency quoted Gen. Zia as saying: "There are also other neighbouring countries of India." Pakistan was "not involved in the matter in any fashion."

Two Indian Sikhs, accused of plotting to assassinate Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi during his visit to the United States next month, may have fled to Canada, France or Britain, the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said.

Assistant FBI Director Oliver Revell said Tuesday the three countries were suspect in view of their large Sikh communities, but that government agents still were intensely searching the New York area for Lal and Ammand Singh.

He said law enforcement agencies in the non-Communist World have been alerted to arrest the two Sikhs who belonged to a small group that allegedly planned a guerrilla campaign seeking to overthrow the government in New Delhi.

## Latin Americans call on U.S. to lift Nicaragua embargo

CARACAS (R) — Twenty-four Latin American nations meeting called on the United States Wednesday to lift its trade embargo on Nicaragua and pledged economic efforts to help the Managua government.

After a protracted meeting of the Latin American Economic System (SELA) which ended after midnight in Caracas, delegates finally reached unanimous agreement on a document condemning the U.S. move as a violation of international behaviour.

The document said "the adoption of coercive economic measures against any member state affects Latin America's economic security and contributes to accentuating tension in Central America."

SELA's ministerial council meeting, called by Nicaragua to discuss the trade embargo which started on May 1, was interrupted for about an hour by a bomb scare.

After returning to the SELA building, delegates worked for seven hours to produce the final document. Agreement was delayed by resistance from Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala to a strong statement.

"We do not agree with the embargo but we cannot ignore the provocation by Nicaragua with acts such as President (Daniel) Ortega's visit to Moscow," said Costa Rican delegate Rafael Parra, chairman of the meeting.

Delegates said that at one stage the Central American countries, except Nicaragua, were prepared to abstain. But virtually no changes were made to the final draft and no separate observations were recorded.

The delegates agreed to instruct SELA to formulate concrete proposals within 60 days on economic and technical assistance to Nicaragua aimed at compensating for the effects of the embargo.

Member countries also pledged to give Nicaragua full support in GATT — the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade — which has tabled a meeting this month at Managua's request to discuss the U.S. embargo.

## Sri Lankans search for bodies of relatives after guerrilla attack

ANURADHAPURA, Sri Lanka (R) — Weeping relatives crowded Anuradhapura's mortuary in Sri Lanka's north central province Wednesday to try to identify dozens of bodies piled up there after Tuesday raid by Tamil guerrillas.

A government spokesman said at least 145 civilians, including women and children, were killed when guerrillas disguised as soldiers shot their way through the sacred Buddhist city and its outskirts.

More than 100 people were also wounded in the first major intrusion into a predominantly Sinhalese area of guerrillas fighting for a separate Tamil state.

Distracted men and women tried to find relatives among nearly 100 bodies piled up at the mortuary.

Armed troops were still patrolling the streets of Anuradhapura, the island's ancient capital, after a 16-hour curfew was lifted Wednesday morning.

Several shops were burned and a Tamil Hindu temple had been destroyed, apparently in retaliation for the guerrilla attack.

Residents said two Tamils were killed by unidentified people after the guerrillas drove through the city on a shooting spree.

But their charges that police and army did not respond quickly enough when told about the guerrilla assault were denied by security authorities.

Witnesses told Reuters people were walking to work and a crowd had gathered at a bus stop when the guerrillas drove up in a bus Tuesday morning.

Hettiaratchchi Chitraratne, 31, said three men dressed in commando uniforms and carrying hand bombs got off the bus and surveyed the area first.

A motorcyclist rode in and gave a thumbs-up signal. Several guerrillas inside the bus then fired a number of machinegun rounds at the crowded bus stand, he said.

The guerrillas, all aged about 20, shouted "Dhuvayipo sinhalayo" (run you Sinhalese) as they opened fire, Chitraratne said.

He said the bus then drove slowly through the streets as the guerrillas fired at fleeing men, women and children.

## Six bodies found after Philadelphia block fire

PHILADELPHIA (R) — Six bodies, burnt beyond recognition, were found in the charred remains of a bizarre black cult that was destroyed along with 59 other homes in a fire ignited by a police incendiary bomb.

As outraged residents charged that police had turned their quiet black working class neighbourhood into a war zone, Police Commissioner Gregory Sambor said he feared up to 15 more bodies could be found in the rubble of the fortress-like headquarters of MOVE.

Sambor said the bodies of two adult males, two adult females, one female child and part of a body of another child had been found.

Mayor Wilson Goode, the city's first black mayor, said Tuesday night that MOVE had been stockpiling weapons and ammunition because it wanted "to have a violent confrontation. Move turned a peaceful block into an armed camp," he said.

Mr. Goode added that area residents had told him they would

solve the problem if he did not. But residents said they never dreamed that police action would end with their own homes and possessions destroyed.

The bombing triggered a fire that swept across the block destroying 60 homes, making 240 people homeless and causing \$5 million in damage.

A police spokesman said the bodies recovered Tuesday were from the basement of the two-storey rowhouse that MOVE had fortified. The entire house had collapsed into the basement and police said there were still tonnes of rubble to sift.

Mr. Goode defended police actions in trying to end the siege at MOVE headquarters by dropping a percussion bomb on the building's steel rooftop bunker, accidentally igniting the worst residential fire in the city's history.

He said the bombing of the bunker "worked perfectly according to plan. The thing we did not anticipate was that there would be a resulting fire."

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### Jailed Irish couple seek conjugal rights

DUBLIN (R) — A couple jailed for life for killing a policeman 10 years ago appealed to Ireland's high court to let them exercise their conjugal rights in jail. Noel Murray, 36, and his wife Marie, 37, argued through their lawyers that they were entitled to these rights under the constitution and that denial of them amounted to punishment in excess of their sentence. At present the couple, who were married in 1973 and have no children, are allowed to meet for only half an hour each week in Limerick Jail, separated by a counter and in the presence of two prison officers. The Murrays, jailed in 1976 for shooting the policeman during a robbery attempt the previous year, said friends would foster any children they might have in prison. The court reserved judgment.

### Officials return thirsty from cocktail party

ISLAMABAD (R) — Several senior Pakistani government officials went home thirsty after Islamabad police raided an illegal cocktail party thrown by a prominent banker. Police said they seized five bottles of whisky and 13 cans of beer just before 26 guests were due to arrive for the party and flout Islamic Pakistan's prohibition laws. The surprised banker, who protested that he had never been bothered before for throwing cocktail parties, could face flogging for possessing liquor and inviting Pakistanis to drink it. Some Pakistani officials, who normally sip cola or fruit juices at receptions where alcohol is served, have started drinking liquor in public since February's general elections and the formation of a civilian government.

### Killer executed in Texas

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (R) — Murderer Jesse de la Rosa, 24, who killed a store clerk six years ago in a robbery which gained him a pack of beer, was executed by injection early Wednesday at Huntsville Prison. He left behind a statement in Spanish saying: "Christ forgive my brothers and sisters for the sins I've committed. God forgive me. And God, I give my life for my brothers and sisters." A dozen protesters held a candlelight vigil outside the prison as De la Rosa, a Mexican-American from San Antonio, was pronounced dead at 12:17 a.m. (0517 GMT). His lawyers lost an appeal to the United States supreme court Tuesday. De la Rosa was the seventh person executed in Texas since 1982.

### Bob Hope celebrates 82nd birthday

LONDON (AP) — Bob Hope came home to London Tuesday night for an early 82nd birthday celebration with a prince and string of celebrities — but he had a hard time finding any takers for his birthday cake. At the end of the birthday gala at the Lyric Theatre, Hope cut the huge blue-frosted cake decorated with U.S. and British flags and first tried to tempt Prince Philip, husband of Queen Elizabeth II, with a piece. But the laughing Prince started backing off stage. The comedian then went up to his wife, Dolores, who put her hands up in mock horror. Hope finally found a taker — World Middleweight Champion Majidi Hagler. The gala, which raised \$22,500 (\$28,000) for the Prince's Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme to aid youngsters, attracted a star-studded cast including Debbie Reynolds, Brooke Shields, Julio Iglesias, Crystal Gayle and Charlton Heston. But show was stolen by the surprise appearance of actor Michael Caine who recalled that Hope's donation had saved a London youth club where Michael began acting 40 years ago. "If I'd known when he was 14 that he was going to be that big a star, I would have adopted him," cracked Hope.

## Pope begins visit to Luxembourg

LUXEMBOURG (R) — Pope John Paul arrived in Luxembourg Wednesday on the second stage of his tour of the Benelux countries, leaving behind him an atmosphere of rebellion and controversy which dogged his four-day visit to the Netherlands.

He was met at the airport amid strong security by Grand Duke Jean and Grand Duchess Josephine Charlotte and members of the government and local dignitaries led by Prime Minister Jacques Santer.

After his traditional kissing of the ground he addressed a crowd of 300 specially invited guests.

He ended his visit to the Netherlands with an appeal to Dutch

Catholics to cooperate more closely with each other and their bishops.

In a brief speech at Amsterdam airport before flying to Luxembourg, the Pope told his bishops that they had "his confidence and support".

Many of the Dutch bishops are conservatives whose appointments by the Pope have raised strong criticism from liberal Catholics here.

The Pontiff, who flew to Schiphol Airport by helicopter after spending the night in Amsterdam, spent several minutes talking to Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, a Catholic, before his plane took off.

On Tuesday the Pope delivered a lecture on Catholic morality to his Dutch critics.

Vatican sources say the Pope was neither surprised nor disappointed by his often cool and sometimes turbulent reception.

On his final day in the Netherlands Tuesday the Pope, encouraged by the largest crowds of his tour, reaffirmed in strong terms the church's condemnation of sexual permissiveness and behaviour which threatened the sanctity of marriage.

The Pope suggested it was unrealistic for young people to imagine Jesus would tolerate abortion, sexual relations outside marriage or homosexuality.

## 32 Conservatives launch revolt against Thatcher

OXFORD, England (R) — A cabinet minister fired by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has formally launched a high-powered party revolt against her economic policies.

Francis Pym, spearheading a new pressure group of 32 Conservative Party parliamentarians, accused Mrs. Thatcher of a bland and inadequate response to Britain's record unemployment.

Mr. Pym, who was dismissed as foreign secretary by Mrs. Thatcher after her June 1983 re-election landslide, declared in a speech in this university town: "I do not see how we can possibly be satisfied with the success of our policies and nor do most people in this country. Can the government really be satisfied itself?"

Mr. Pym has been meeting secretly for the past three weeks with other Conservatives on what Mrs. Thatcher calls the "wet" wing of the party to put together the "centre forward" group.

They say Mrs. Thatcher's failure to cut Britain's 13.5 per cent

unemployment could spell disaster for the Conservatives, in power since 1979, at the next election due by 1988.

It is the first time that the party's "wet" faction has formed a bloc to oppose Mrs. Thatcher's monetarist policies.

But Mrs. Thatcher's predecessor, Edward Heath, a leading critic of her policies, Tuesday night refused to join the rebel group, saying he objected to the idea of a party within a party.

Mr. Pym, while insisting he was loyal to the Conservative Party, said Mrs. Thatcher was in an ideological straitjacket.

Most people were either poorer or no richer than they were when Mrs. Thatcher took power in 1979, he said, adding:

"Is it any wonder that these people find it impossible to comprehend the claimed recovery? For them it literally does not exist."

His speech brought bitter reproaches from Conservative parliamentarians.

## Envoy quits over U.S. policy towards Romania

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. ambassador in Bucharest, David Funderburk, has resigned because he believes American policy towards Romania is not tough enough, the Washington Post reported Wednesday.

The newspaper said Mr. Funderburk, who was interviewed on Monday in Munich, called for revision of U.S. policy, including a possible end to the Most-Favoured-Nation trading status and other concessions granted to Romania by Washington.

The Post said President Reagan had accepted Mr. Funderburk's decision.

State Department Spokeswoman Kathleen Lange, asked to comment on the report, told Reuters Tuesday night: "At this point, I just have nothing."

The Post quoted Mr. Funderburk, 41, as saying that since he took up his post in 1981 he had tried to convince the Reagan administration

to toughen its approach to Romania. Bucharest has received preferential treatment from Washington on the basis of a foreign policy that often diverges from Moscow.

Mr. Funderburk said a "network" of administration officials had dismissed evidence collected by his embassy documenting Romania's growing economic ties with the Soviet Union, the transfer to the Soviet Union of technology Romania had obtained from the West and Bucharest's position as a major exporter of arms.

He said there also was a tendency among some administration officials to soften criticism of human rights abuses in Romania.

A State Department official testified Tuesday to the House Foreign Affairs Committee that Romania had made some progress on human rights under pressure from the United States.

## Kanaks want whites to have place after independence

NOUMEA (R) — White settlers will have a place in the government of an independent New Caledonia, a Kanak separatist leader said Wednesday amid fears of rising violence in the turbulent French territory.

Edmond Nekirai, a spokesman for the pro-independence Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS) party, told Reuters all whites would have an opportunity to participate in a new government.

"We have never said we are going to throw the whites out," Mr. Nekirai said in an interview. "If someone says that, it's not true," he said through an interpreter.

Police went on special alert and set up roadblocks to search for the bombers responsible for three blasts in Noumea on Monday and a fourth Tuesday in this.

No-one has claimed responsibility for the bomb attacks but Kanak leaders claimed white extremists and one French official said privately whites had probably planted the bombs.

The blasts followed a street battle in Noumea last Wednesday among police, Kanaks and white settlers in which a Kanak youth was shot dead and 95 people were

wounded.

Referring to the violence Mr. Nekirai said the extreme right was trying to force a confrontation. "Whatever they do here the FLNKS will go for independence," he said.

Mr. Nekirai said the FLNKS would decide at its congress later this month whether to participate in a French plan for independence which calls for elections in August to replace the territorial assembly with a congress of four regional councils.

The setting up of the councils would be an interim step towards a referendum on independence France has promised by 1987.

FLNKS leader Jean-Marie Tjibaou has said the plan might provide a basis for independence, but Mr. Nekirai, a senior figure in the FLNKS, disagreed.

"I no longer recognise the French constitution when I talk about independence," he said.

### THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Eversen

#### WEIGHTY WORDS

By Bert H. Krass

ACROSS

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### GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

1984 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

#### FRENCH JUNIORS WIN TITLE

East-West vulnerable, East deals.

NORTH  
♠ K 3 2  
♥ A Q 2  
♦ J 10 6 3  
♣ Q 7 5

EAST  
♠ Q 10  
♥ K J 9 4  
♦ A K 9 4 2  
♣ A J

SOUTH  
♠ A 9 8 7 6 5 4  
♥ Q 3  
♦ Q 7 5  
♣ K 10

The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass Pass 1 ♠ 2 NT  
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♠ 2 NT  
Pass 3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠  
Pass Pass Double Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠.

France and Italy tied for first place in the recent European Junior Championships. Because France beat Italy in their individual encounter, the title went to France.

The two teams were almost level near the end of their match when this deal came along. We were not given the bidding, but it could have gone as shown above. The opening

bid of one club is artificial and strong and one diamond is negative. The rest is natural.

Both teams reached four spades, and both Wests led the king of diamonds. The Italian West made the dubious shift to the jack of hearts. Declarer had no alternative to the finesse, and when it held the rest was easy. He drew trumps and conceded another diamond and a club — making four odd.

The French West defended much more intelligently. He took his two diamond tricks and the ace of clubs, and then led a third diamond. East cooperated masterfully by ruffing with the jack of spades, and the defenders had promoted a trump trick for down one.

Junior events limited to players under 25 are common in Europe. In all, 19 countries took part in this year's Junior Championship, and the standard of play was excellent. Bridge is thriving.

Compare that to the U.S. There is not a single event for young players. Even the intercollegiate championship, which some years ago attracted several hundred schools, is no longer held. Small wonder, then, that there is a dearth of young players in the U.S.